

THE SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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"This Man Receiveth Sinners"

Luke 15:11-24

By Dr. L. E. Barton, D.D.

Evangelist, Supply Pastor, Author, and Former Parliamentarian, Southern Baptist Convention

What an accusation—"This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them"! Both the Pharisees and scribes brought the charge against Jesus. They said He violates social custom. He eats with "untouchables"; "he has gone to be guest with a man who is a sinner" they said on another occasion. The accusation was true. That is the glory of it and the glory of the Lord Jesus. He is too big to be confined to one race or people. He was too high to forget the lowly and too lowly to despise the high. His critics unwittingly crowned Him with highest honor. They sensed His real character and revealed His major concern. Take that away and His mission would be gone. Sinners were His business. "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners..."

The Lord answered this charge by telling three stories—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. Luke says: "And he spake this parable unto them." Then gives the three stories. In the parable of the lost sheep there is the loss of property value, but more than that, there is the shepherd's tender heart for the sheep and his great joy in finding it. This sheep is only one out of a hundred, but it must not perish. The joy over finding it is like the joy in Heaven over one sinner that repents more than over ninety-nine persons who need no repentance. The lost coin is one out of ten. It has property value but much

more, it was connected with the dearest sentiment of the woman's life because it was a wedding gift.

But "a certain man had two sons" comes to grips with that which is dearer than life itself. It goes far beyond all property value. It operates in paternal affection. No rival can appear here to share honors with the children. The man had two sons and one of them left home against the father's will. He turned his back on the front door and on his father and departed. It is not even said that he told his father good-by, and the implication is that he did

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Cooperating for Soul Winning

By Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

Founder Bob Jones University, Greenville, South Carolina

(Preached at Sword Conference on Revival and Soul Winning, Baptist State Assembly Ground, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, August 9, 1950. Mechanically recorded for The Sword of the Lord.)

"These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication..."—Acts 1:14.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place."—Acts 2:1.

"And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart."—Acts 2:46.

"And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord..."—Acts 4:24a.

"And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch."—Acts 5:12.

This morning I want to talk to you on a subject greatly needed in this country. How far can we Christians go together without anybody compromising our convictions? Now, it is never right to do wrong to get a chance to do right. Let me say that again: It is never right to do wrong to get a chance to do right.

Christian Cooperation Never Means Compromising With Modernism

A fellow said to me not long ago, "You know, I'm up against it, Dr. Bob."

"What's the matter with you?" "Well, my denomination—a certain religious denomination, one of the best-known denominations in this country—is putting on a program that I don't think is right. It isn't true to the gospel and I don't know what to do." He said, "I have to preach. I can preach in my church, get people to God and get them saved. But that program is against my conscience and it bothers me day and night. I am supporting something I can't endorse."

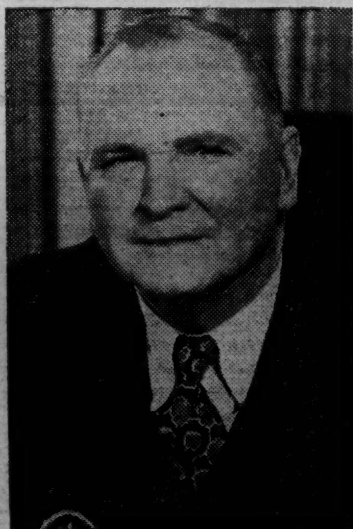
I said, "My friend, remember that it is never right to do wrong to get a chance to do right."

You do not have to do wrong. God never puts you on a spot where you have to do wrong. You can do right. We tell our students

that the two biggest words in the English language are "do right." Do right if the stars fall. "Do right." There is only one question to ask—"What is the right thing?" When you decide what is right, do it!

God is on that side. God puts omnipotence on the side of everything that is right, and God organizes His omnipotence against everything that is wrong. So when

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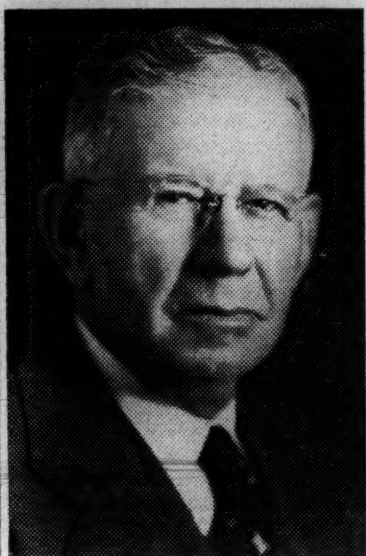


Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

HOW JESUS USED OTHERS IN SOUL WINNING

By the late Dr. L. R. Scarborough

Late President and Professor of Evangelism in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas



Dr. L. R. Scarborough

THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

THIS IS MONDAY, MAY 28, AND WE are in a blessed revival campaign, with six Baptist churches, in Moncton, New Brunswick, and suburbs. In the first eight days there have been approximately 190 public professions of faith in Christ. Rev. Arthur Pyke, trained in Moody Institute and Wheaton College, is pastor of the Highfield Baptist Church and chairman of the campaign. He is a strong and noble man, greatly respected in this area. Among the highlights of the campaign was the Saturday night service, combined with Youth for Christ, when the High School Auditorium was packed and running over, when every available seat was taken and scores stood throughout the services, and many others turned away. Crowds are coming from all over this province, from Prince Edward Island and from Nova Scotia. Usually delegations are in the congregation each evening from about twenty places outside the suburbs of Moncton. Daily radio services have greatly helped. Pastors have been very cordial, cooperative, and helpful. In the service last night, among those saved were many strong men, one a Catholic, another a native Chinese man. We hope for hundreds more to be converted this week.

THE EDITOR HAS A CORRECTION to make. Sometime ago I mentioned the indoctrination courses required for Methodist preachers which tend to break down faith in the Word of God as an infallible revelation. Brother H. L. Cochran, Jr., a student in Asbury Seminary at Wilmore, Kentucky, calls to my attention that this Seminary, while not owned and controlled by the Methodist denomination, prepares many ministers for the Methodist ministry, and it takes

(Continued on page 11)

Don't Miss Page Nine!

There is a directory of Bible-exalting, Christ-honoring summer Bible conferences in this issue. It has been provided as a service to our readers. Read the ads—it pays! As usual, you can trust SWORD advertisers to represent their services correctly and deal fairly. Please mention THE SWORD when registering or writing for literature.

"...he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house. And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them. And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four. And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only? And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion."—Mark 2:1-12.

In Mark the second chapter Jesus has hung in God's hall of fame a most beautiful picture of soul winning. He had been busy around the shores of the Galilean Sea with the glorious tasks which filled His wonderful ministry. His headquarters were Capernaum. There was some hospitable home in the city by the sea which welcomed Him on his visits to Capernaum. We do not know whose home it was, neither the name, the number in the family, the comforts and apartments of the home, the furniture, the food. We only know that it made a glorious welcome for Jesus. It was noised abroad that He, the Messiah, was in this house.

A great crowd gathered. Four men, evidently His disciples, who knew His power and believed in His saving and healing strength, thought of their friend, a paralyzed man, who doubtless for months or years had been under the frightful power of paralysis. They wanted to see him healed and saved; and they went to his home, put him on a bed, took hold of the four cor-

ners of the couch, carried him through the streets to the home where Jesus was preaching. The crowd, curious and anxious, at the door was so great that they could not get their man in to Jesus. They carried him to the roof, tore up the roof, and by some sort of contrivance let him down on the

(Continued on page 2)

Letter Month Closes June 27

Your Letter to Get Special Prizes and Premiums and Special Savings Must Be Mailed and Postmarked Not Later Than Midnight, June 27.

Write Us Today

By the Editor

Thousands of people are writing during the annual Sword Letter Month. Today there were letters from Japan, from Indonesia, from Holland, from England, from Canada, from the Philippine Islands, and from all over America.

We want a letter from every reader of THE SWORD OF THE LORD, to be postmarked not later than June 27. We feel that if we minister to you of spiritual things, it is only fair that you should share with us your thanks, your cooperation in getting out the gospel.

Good pastors write to say how THE SWORD OF THE LORD has blessed their hearts. A woman writes to say that her husband was saved a few weeks ago through Sword literature. Another friend writes that the one for whom he requested prayer during our Revival-By-Mail has been saved. A soldier writes to tell how he has trusted Christ as Saviour through our literature. Many send Bible questions. And running through these letters is a strain of gratitude and thanksgiving to God for the warmth and spiritual blessings THE SWORD OF THE LORD has brought to the homes and hearts of the letter writers.

It is not too much to ask, is it, that you write a letter? Tell us if you know of someone saved

through Sword of the Lord literature. Offer some constructive suggestion. For example, two women, in letters received today, asked for more stories for children in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. If you have a constructive and helpful criticism given in love and in Jesus' name, then make it; but be sure it is of God.

Please do not expect us to pay postage on your letters to us asking for free pamphlets. Do not use a Sword of the Lord envelope for that unless you are willing to put a stamp on it.

Free for the Asking

Let us remind you again of special gifts and premiums which we have for you.

First, everyone who writes and asks for the 32-page pamphlet, *Bloody Hands and How to Cleanse Them*, may have a copy absolutely free postpaid. Do not ask for copies for others. They are not for free distribution in quantities. The 32 large pages costs too much

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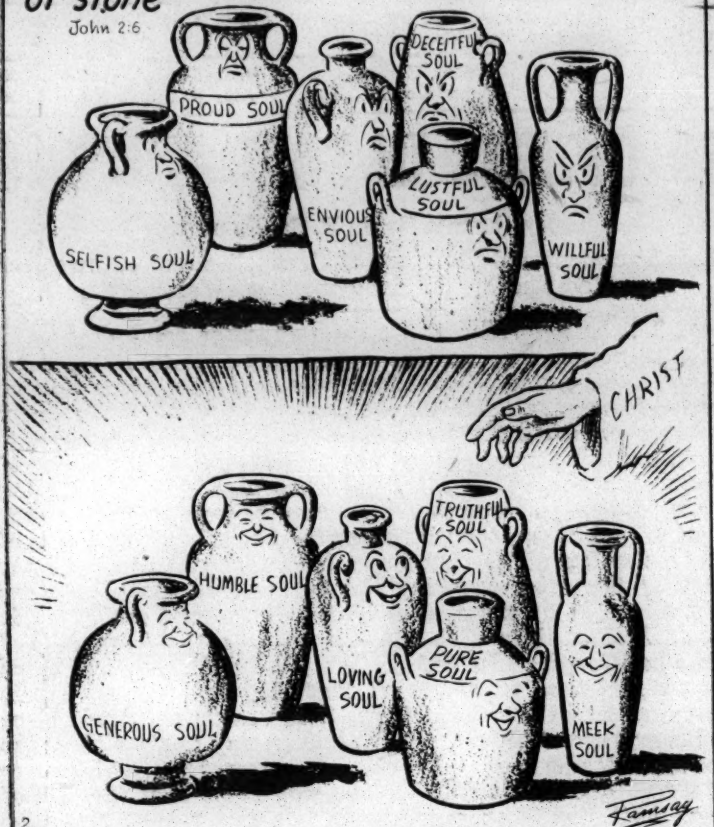
The Gospel at a Glance

By Charles L. Ramsay

THE MASTER'S TOUCH

And there were set there six waterpots of stone

John 2:6



This is another in a series of original Christian cartoons drawn by Charles L. Ramsay which have been appearing weekly in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. The first edition of 101 Christian Cartoons was completely exhausted. A second edition has been prepared and will be available July 1. Orders are now being accepted at \$1.00 per copy.

How Jesus Used Others

(Continued from page 1)

bed just in front of Jesus. It is said that Jesus when He saw their faith—the faith of the four personal workers and the faith of the paralyzed man—said unto him, “Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.” He saved him, afterwards healed him, rebuked the doubts in the hearts of some of the crowd, rewarded the faith of those who believed, sent the man back to his home well in body, saved in soul, to rejoice with his family in the blessings of God.

A Look at This Case

The study of this case brings out many a glorious gospel truth.

1. It is a case of home evangelism. This hospitable home for Jesus not only welcomed the Saviour, but sinners as well. The man who owned the home allowed Jesus to turn it into a preaching place, a hospital for the sick, and a center of evangelism for the lost. He was willing for them to tear up the roof of his house if need be to get a soul to Christ. He had nothing too dear to sacrifice for the salvation of the lost and the glory of the Saviour. What a wonderful illustration of the power of domestic evangelism! What a beautiful example of a home welcoming Christ and sinners together!

2. The presence of Jesus is and will continue to be the drawing power of every church, every Sunday school, every young people's group, and all other groups worshipping God and seeking to win the lost. “It was noised that he was in the house.” Whenever it gets out on our churches or other groups of worshippers that Jesus is in the midst, the multitudes are sure to come and acts of benevolence, of healing, of soul-winning

and kingdom-building are sure to follow.

3. Picture in your mind, with your imagination, these two homes, the one which welcomed Jesus and the sick sinner and was willing to tear the roof off in order for the two to get together. Picture the Saviour preaching in this home, the sick man healed and the lost man saved; and contrast this home with the home of the paralyzed man. He certainly had a home because Jesus sent him to it after He healed him. He doubtless had a wife and children. Think of the long vigils, of the lonely, patient wife caring for her sick husband and her little children. He was unable to work. She must care for him at night and work for him in the day to provide food, clothes and other necessities for him and the children. Think of what a blessing Jesus brought in healing the bread-winner and saving the husband and father. Think of the joy this act of Jesus brought to this home.

When I was in Capernaum in 1923, standing on the tessellated floor of the synagogue of Capernaum my heart went out in loving gratitude to God for the blessing Jesus brought to the home of the paralyzed man. Age and destruction had blotted out all signs of other houses then in Capernaum, except the synagogue. But the records eternal have left the sign of the glory of Christ in His benevolent evangelism and healing power in the home where Jesus healed this sick sinner.

4. This paralyzed man is revelation's photograph of lost men everywhere. Paralysis to the body is a picture of sin's paralysis to the soul. Paralysis is incurable—was then and usually is today. I took my brother to all the doctors in reach. He was paralyzed; and every one of them, after the diagnosis, shook his head and said, “No cure.” No doctor can cure paralysis except the great Physician; and there is no remedy for sin except the power of Jesus Christ. This paralyzed man was helpless and hopeless without Jesus; and so is every lost man, every unbeliever in the world.

5. The cure of Jesus both for the soul and for the body was instantaneous and immediate; and they both came in response to faith.

Jesus has power over the bodies of men to heal their diseases, and the souls of men to forgive their sins.

These Four Immortal Men

I want us to look at Christ's plan of personal cooperation in winning men to life eternal in the conduct of these four men. Let us itemize the case.

1. They evidently believed in and loved Christ. He was the central and compelling motive in their hearts; they believed in His power to heal and His power to save; and they put hands and feet to their faith.

2. They planned carefully and faithfully to bring this man to Jesus. The purpose was born in the heart of one of them, who evidently mentioned it to a second, and the second to a third and the third to a fourth; and their plans were perfected that they should meet at a certain time, at a certain place, and lend their strength to the helpless man in order to carry him to Jesus.

3. They not only planned, but they pushed their plans. Many a plan dies in the purpose of the heart; but these plans were realized in the activity of their beings. They went for their man after they had planned and prayed for him.

4. They were willing to get under the man's burden and feel his weight and share his load, and this is one of the necessities of evangelism today. We must feel the weight of the sinful souls of men and have as a resultant a burning compassion for their salvation.

5. They had faith in Christ, His power to heal and to save. They were not carrying their man to an experiment. The Galilean shore and hills had rung with the praises of the power of Jesus Christ, and their faith in Him was implicit and confident. We can be as sure today of Christ's healing and saving power in every case of soul-sickness the wide world around; and our faith in His power to save is one of the moving motives to get Him to save.

6. These men faced, fought and won over and against all their difficulties and embarrassments. Nothing could hinder them nor halt them. The derision and ridicule of the crowd on the streets, the embarrassment of carrying a man on a bed in public, the crowds that blocked the door at the home where Jesus was preaching, the difficulty of carrying a sick man upstairs and tearing up the roof and letting him down through the hole in the roof, the excitement and embarrassment of such a sensational thing, none of these difficulties halted these men.

7. The wonderful statement when “Jesus saw their faith” gives a picture of the condition of evangelism, the personal faith of the soul winner in the power of Christ to heal the sick and save the lost. Thank God, Jesus did not say He saw their clothes, their pocket books, their scholarship, their social standing, their political power, their personalities; He said He saw their faith, and seeing their faith He moved His arm in power to heal and to save.

I have not a doubt but that my mother's and father's and sister's faith and the faith of dear Brother and Sister Blair—the pastor and his wife—had much to do with my salvation. The faith of the faithful preacher who was conducting the meeting, Rev. Will James, evidently had much to do in drawing and winning my soul to Christ. The consecrated schoolteacher, Prof. Witt, who, when I asked him for an excuse to leave school and go to church, put his hand softly

on mine as he consented for me to go and said, “Lee, I am praying for you.” The faith of this fine group had much to do with my salvation. I was converted that day before I got to the church house.

When He saw their faith He said to me, the wandering, wild cowboy, “Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.” Thank God for the co-operant faith of soul winners as a helpful agency in winning souls to Jesus!

8. What a pity that there are two sad black spots in this wonderful photograph of evangelism! One was the crowds that blocked the door and kept the seeking sinner from getting to Jesus, and the other was the silent doubt of the scribes and Pharisees who sat within the crowd where Jesus preached. He said, “Why reason ye these things in your heart?” They doubted the power of Christ to save souls. The greatest difficulty in the way of evangelism is the doubts of God's people. The block of unfaith kept Jesus from doing mighty works in Nazareth and in a thousand places since.

9. Look at the method Jesus used. He first saved the soul of the seeking sinner. He regarded that the lost man's salvation was pre-eminent above the healing of his body. The interests of the soul are primal with Christ and should be with all His people. Hospitals, orphans' homes, rescue stations, and other benevolent institutions, social service, the proper housing and feeding and clothing of the poor, all laws governing child labor and such like are important indeed; but the salvation of the souls of the people is the first matter; and in whatever benevolent and social service we render, we must have regeneration as the foremost objective. We must heal and help the bodies of men, train and culture the minds of men, but our primary purpose and objective must be the salvation of the souls of men.

10. Here comes from this wonderful incident one of the greatest truths ever revealed and demonstrated to men and that is that Jesus, “The Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins.” Nothing is gladder news to a lost world. Nobody else has that power. Jesus has a monopoly on forgiveness, the power to save souls. Isn't it glorious that He has that power? He is the only person who ever traveled this earth who could stop and turn and beat back and defeat the power of sin in the

souls of men. But He can. He is able and willing and ready to forgive sins. He is God's messenger-bearer of a lost world's best truth, the power to save from sin. We should ring it around the world, from mountain to valley, from shore to shore, that Jesus, “The Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins.”

Young Charles Spurgeon, the embryo of probably the world's second greatest preacher, sat on an elevated seat in the back of a little Methodist chapel one snowy Sunday morning in London and the simple exhorting cobbler arose and said, “Look unto me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth.” “Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool”; and this double message of the truth burned its way into the soul of the penitent boy sinner. He was saved, Jesus forgave him of his sins, called him to preach, elevated him to one of the greatest pulpits in the world and for forty years and more made him God's mightiest evangel to win men to Christ. Thank God, through his preaching multiplied thousands have looked unto Jesus, had their scarlet sins cleansed and their souls made white as snow in the blood of the Lamb.

11. Next, I would have you look at the joy of the reaper. Look in the faces of these four men looking down through the hole in the roof. Their faith moved the arm of Jesus and the moved arm of Jesus healed and saved the penitent, sick sinner. They see him now rising, picking up his bed, going out of the crowded room. They come down from the roof; they meet him just outside the door. They clasp hands. They embrace him. They congratulate him. They rejoice with him. I imagine they went with him and took him back home and carried him to his wife and children and delivered him well and safe. Can you not imagine the happiness of that home and those four soul-winning, personal workers?

There is no joy like it in all the world. Would it not be glorious if in every church and Sunday school and young people's and women's and laymen's organization, in every seminary, in every college, hospital, orphans' home, rescue home, or mission station in all the world, there was such a combination of personal workers and spiritual soul winners as are here

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Letter Month

(Continued from page 1)

for that. You may buy extra copies for 15c each. But ask for a copy for yourself. If your neighbors want copies, get them to write their own letters.

Second, with every cash retail order of from \$1 up to \$4.99, we will be glad to send absolutely free a 24-page pamphlet, *Infidels—Answered by 3 Immortals*. This book which answers unbelievers in the Bible has three parts. The first is, “My Infidelity and What Became of It,” by the late Dr. B. H. Carroll. It is heart-moving, classic literature. You will treasure a copy, will lend it to many to read. The second part is by Dr. R. A. Torrey, “How I Know There Is a God.” In the third part, Mr. Soltan tells how he was present when D. L. Moody in England preached to five thousand infidels, and some five hundred of them turned to Christ. Here is the answer to infidelity by three immortals. The pictures of B. H. Carroll, R. A. Torrey, and D. L. Moody are included. Remember this book is free IF YOU ASK FOR IT, with cash retail orders from \$1 to \$4.99.

Third, with cash retail orders of \$5 or more, you may have a free copy of the Billy Graham book, *Revival in Our Time*. It has accounts of some of the great Billy Graham revival campaigns, eight pages of pictures of Billy Graham, his workers, meeting places, etc., and six sermons by Billy Graham. This clothbound \$2 book sent absolutely free with \$5 retail cash orders. But you must ask for it if you want it.

Remember also that six very popular books are offered at a

special price—\$1 each in lots of 3 or more. There are no other cuts in prices. No substitutions, please. But order as many of these six as you wish, three or more at a time, at the special rate of \$1 each.

We suggest that you order subscriptions for others, extend your own subscription 3 years for \$5, or send an offering for the Free Literature Fund. Take advantage of our offers.

Thousands of readers have gotten the Sword of the Lord Publishers catalog of books, Bibles, Testaments, greeting cards, gospel phonograph records, wall plaques, etc. Get your order in for anything you may need, if possible, during Letter Month. Remember, Letter Month closes at midnight, June 27. We suggest that you mail your order by that time so that it will be postmarked not later than midnight, June 27. If you do not have the Sword catalog, ask for a copy, or get an extra copy from a friend.

Letter Month would be a good time to write also for the folders announcing summer conferences on revival and soul winning sponsored by the Sword of the Lord, giving dates, speakers, program, and rates. Order the folder of the conference you would rather attend—Lake Louise, Toccoa, Georgia, July 9-15; at the Latham Springs Baptist Assembly Ground, near Aquila, Texas, August 5-10; or at the Baptist State Assembly Ground, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, August 12-17. Ask for your folder when you write.

And be sure to tell us that you pray for us in our effort to get out the gospel to all the world.

MAIL US A LETTER TODAY. We are counting on you. Address your letter to the Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.



Before June 27, Please!

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

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EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE
D.D., LITT.D.
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

EVANGELIST BILL RICE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

CHARLES T. LAMPMAN
MANAGING EDITOR

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Dr. Rice Answers Six Bible Questions

1. Should Christians Keep the Saturday—Sabbath?

We have a good letter from a Seventh-Day Adventist, a brother of Charlotte, North Carolina. This good man says, "I am a Seventh-Day Adventist and am writing you this letter because a reader of the paper, *The Sword of the Lord*, insists that I am wrong in my belief on the matter of the sabbath. I only met the man twice in my life, but I promised him I would write to you. I assure you this is not for the purpose of proving you wrong or for any unholy reason. I am broadminded enough to quit anything I am doing wrong when I find that it is wrong, for my aim is to be righteous."

I think you will be interested in my answer to this good man. I hope that the letter helps him, and other readers.

"Dear Brother H.....: "I am glad you wrote me, and I think I can help you on the question of the Sabbath. At any rate, I, like you, believe the whole Word of God, I love the Lord Jesus and want to do exactly what He wants me to do.

"I am sending you my pamphlet, *Sunday or Sabbath, Which Should Christians Observe?* I hope you will read it very carefully. But I want in this letter to briefly make my position clear, and then if you will study that booklet and all the Scriptures which I give I feel sure the whole question will clear up in your mind and you will see that the Sabbath was ceremonial law, is not required of Christians, and will see why.

"1. I do not find anywhere in the Bible that Sunday is now the Sabbath. I do not believe that God changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday, since the Bible does not say it. So do not misunderstand me.

"2. However, it is quite clear in the Bible that God gave the Sabbath as a special command to Jews and a special covenant between Him and the nation Israel. This is expressly stated in Exodus 31:12-17. The people of Israel should keep the Sabbath, it is a covenant between them and God.

"So Nehemiah 9:14 states that the Sabbath was first made known at Mt. Sinai, and as a part of the ceremonial law. Remember that Moses did not write down Genesis 2:2, 3 until after the law was given at Mt. Sinai. Remember that there is not a hint before that that Adam or Abel or Noah, nor Abraham, nor Isaac, nor Jacob observed the Sabbath before Mt. Sinai. It was given to Jews expressly as a part of the ceremonial law.

"3. In Colossians 2:13-17 we are clearly told that New Testament Christians are not to observe the Sabbath and that no one is to judge New Testament Christians with regard to the Sabbaths, 'which are a shadow of things to come but the body is of Christ.' Here we are plainly told that the Sabbaths, along with Jewish dietary laws and new moons and holy days, were ceremonies, a shadow or a picture of spiritual truth that would be revealed fully in Christ's coming. No one is to judge a New Testament Christian on the basis of the Sabbath. Those ordinances of the ceremonial law are taken out of the way, nailed to Christ's cross, we are plainly told.

"4. You are mistaken in supposing that Jesus vigorously kept the Sabbath. John 5:18 plainly says, 'Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was his father, making himself equal with God.' And when the issue was brought up of His healing on the Sabbath day, He continued in that practice knowing it would arouse opposition.

"In fact, when you say that Christ attended the synagogue on the Sabbath, and you think that is observance of the Sabbath, you have misunderstood entirely what the Sabbath was. Jews were never commanded to attend church on the Sabbath nor to attend the synagogue. The command was, 'Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt not do any

"We now have the Lord's Day, not the Sabbath. We observe it as a matter of grace and not of law. It has an entirely different meaning. We do not now observe a Sabbath day.

"Write me further if I can help you or if you have some honest question. But first be sure to read over two or three times and check the references in the pamphlet, *Sunday or Sabbath*.

"In the Saviour's name, yours," JOHN R. RICE

If you are interested in this pamphlet, *Sunday or Sabbath, Which Should Christians Observe?* we will be glad to send a copy, twenty-four large pages, for 15c. Better, order 7 copies for \$1.00 to give to neighbors and friends. God has used it to clear up the minds of many on this important matter.

And meantime, to set everybody thinking, I remind you that there is not a single command in the New Testament for people to observe the Sabbath. That is an Old Testament command, not a New Testament, it is ceremonial law, not moral law. It is for Jews and not for Christians. We have the Lord's Day, which is a different day and observed by grace and not by law. Get this pamphlet for yourself, *Sunday or Sabbath, Which Should Christians Observe?* from the Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.

work... A Jew was not even allowed to light a fire in his house on the Sabbath day. One man was stoned for picking up sticks. That kind of a Sabbath was suitable for people in a warm climate in Palestine. And it was never given to anybody else but Jews in Palestine. Christians are plainly warned not to observe it since it is ceremonial law, nailed to the cross of Christ.

"I hope you will read very carefully my pamphlet on *Sunday or Sabbath, Which Should Christians Observe?* I know it is written very carefully and thousands have been blessed by it. Dr. Louis Talbot ordered 30,000 copies for his radio audience on the West Coast. Other great Bible teachers have used it. Dr. H. A. Ironside asked for the privilege of reprinting it in Moody Church News, and did reprint it.

2. Does the Bible Forbid Pictures and Statues?

A woman writes that a Christian man she knows, a convert from Catholicism says it is wrong to have any kind of pictures in a Bible, wrong to have mottoes and pictures in a Christian bookstore or in a Christian home. She asks for counsel and I have written her as follows:

"Dear Mrs. —:

"Thank you for your letter. I am not familiar enough with *The Book of Life* to know whether it is in every detail true to the Word of God. But I say very frankly that there is no harm in books with pictures, whether pictures are illustrating the Bible, or other pictures.

"I do not think you ought to be too much concerned with the good deacon, who, because of his past experience in Catholicism feels bad about pictures. And I do not believe that he would have some special influence of God on a matter where the Lord has not spoken. I don't believe he could 'pray you out of a job' if you find the will of God and go by His will.

"I am glad to tell you, that according to the Bible, pictures and images have a legitimate place, and their proper use is not a sin.

"Your converted Catholic friend is troubled about this matter because pictures and images are definitely used in worship, and therefore as idols, in the Catholic church. This is plainly forbidden in the Ten Commandments, as given in Exodus 20:4, 5, 'Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God...'

"Two things are quite clear, I think, about that passage. First, it speaks definitely of idols and anything else that is worshipped as God. He has a right to be jealous of idols. It is wrong for a Catholic to worship a rosary or crucifix. It is wrong for a Catholic to bow down before a statue of Mary, and pray before the statue. It is equally wrong to have a picture of Christ and candles and a cross for a worship center in a Protestant church, and use them as a center of worship. That is idolatrous. It is wrong because of its formalism, but it is also wrong because it is idolatrous. Of course, no one believes that the picture of Christ can answer a prayer. They simply believe that their hearts are better prepared to pray by

looking at the picture of the golden cross, and they pray, people say, to what the picture and the cross represent. But a heathen man who worshipped Baal and prayed before a golden calf, would not expect that that bit of gold, fashioned by a man's hand, would answer him. He would simply be praying, he would tell you, to the heathen god or deity represented by the golden calf. It is quite clear from the Scriptures that Christians should not bow to or worship before images. That is idolatry.

"But it is equally clear that if this Scripture forbids pictures of Christ or Bible pictures, it also forbids every other kind of pictures. 'Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing...' He is clearly talking about idols before which people bow down and worship, but it would be as wrong to worship before an image or statue of George Washington or a picture of some mountain as before a crucifix, or a statue of Mary.

"But does this commandment of God forbid all pictures, all images, all likenesses? Clearly it does not! The Bible does not forbid pictures, statues, images, just so they are not used as objects of worship, but do have holy and proper usage.

"There were many images and likenesses which God commanded in the curtains and furniture of the tabernacle and later of the temple. Exodus 25:33 tells that in making the golden candlestick, 'Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick.'

"Exodus 26:31 tells us that the veil of blue and purple and scarlet and fine twined linen should be made 'with cherubims.' Embroidered cherubims are pictures of images, but they were commanded in the veil. You understand that people did not bow down to the veil nor worship it. Neither did they worship the golden candlestick. These were simply beautiful reminders of spiritual things, like the pictures in a Bible or a good Christian book.

"Pomegranates of blue and

purple and scarlet were embroidered upon the hem of the high priest's robe (Exodus 28:33).

"In the furniture for Solomon's temple, built under God's direction, there were many images and pictures. Twelve carved oxen upheld the great brazen sea (I Kings 7:25). There were lions, oxen and cherubims upon the borders (I Kings 7:29). And connected with the base were wheels, cherubims, lions and palm trees. The brim of the great brass receptacle was engraved 'with flowers of lilies' (I Kings 7:26). Solomon had the temple and its furniture built according to divine plan, and the

Shekinah glory of the Lord filled the temple when it was dedicated. You see, it is obvious that God did not forbid images and pictures. He just forbade them being made and used as idols.

"Every sacrifice in the Old Testament pictured Christ. The Lord's Supper pictures His body and blood today. Baptism is in the likeness of His burial and resurrection. Object lessons and pictures about spiritual matters may be useful and helpful, just so they are not used as objects of worship, or with worship centered about them."

JOHN R. RICE

3. Is Dr. E. Stanley Jones a Socialist and a Modernist?

"My dear Brother F—:

"I am so glad to have your letter, and glad that you liked sample copies of *The Sword of the Lord*, except the reference to E. Stanley Jones.

"I am asking my secretary to have *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* sent to you from our Ministers and Missionaries Fund, since you are not able to pay for it. And I feel that I want a beloved brother like you reading *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* and praying for me.

"You say you do not like me classing E. Stanley Jones with modernists. However, I am sure you will find Dr. E. Stanley Jones does not feel as sensitive on that matter as you do, since he deliberately picks modernists for his fellows all the time, runs with them, seeks their favor, backs their program, chooses to be counted with them. He has been the active friend and co-worker of Bishop Oxnham and other Methodist bishops working with the subversive, pro-communist group in the Methodist church. He has been very active with the modernistic leaders in the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches). He has chosen his crowd, and I have no doubt has been very deliberate in his choice and he would not be sensitive surely to be classed with modernists.

"You are very much impressed with Dr. E. Stanley Jones' books. I have read a good many of them and there are many fine things in them. However, they are not gospel books. Dr. Jones wants what he calls 'the kingdom of God' by which he means a socialist state. He does not mean getting individuals born again, he does not mean old-fashioned Bible revivals. He means a socialist state seizing property and taking it away from individuals, dictatorship forcing the more progressive, the harder working, the more gifted people down on the level with others. He has been pro-communist again and again. He has even gone so far as to state that Russia had gone farther in the Christian experience and experiment than the

United States. Dr. Jones is a moving writer, it is true. But he does not want what Christians want. He is not seeking the salvation of the individual, he is not holding to the Bible as the Word of God. He is primarily a socialist reformer, using Bible terminology but not meaning what classic and historic Christianity means by the same terms.

"I suggest that you write Dr. Jones yourself to find out whether or not he is a socialist and a modernist. To find out whether he is a modernist, will you ask him if he believes in the infallible inspiration of the Bible, in the virgin birth of Christ, and in Christ's bodily resurrection. If he does not believe in all three of those, he is a modernist. Bible believers, of course, believe in the full inspiration and authority of the Word of God and therefore in the virgin birth and bodily resurrection of Christ. Modernists do not believe in some of those things. It will not answer the question for Dr. Jones to say he believes in 'our divine Lord and Saviour,' if he does not believe in the full inspiration of the Bible and the virgin birth.

"To find whether he is a socialist, I suggest that you ask him plainly whether he favors socialized medicine, whether he favors consumer cooperatives to do business instead of free enterprise. Ask him plainly whether he believes in capitalism, the American way of life.

"I thank you for your kind letter. I am always glad to hear from any honest preacher of the gospel, any Bible-believing Christian. And of course I want your love and prayers for *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* and for our ministry.

"Write me as freely as you will and God bless you.

"In the Saviour's name, yours," JOHN R. RICE

4. Should Christians Join Civic Organizations?

A good pastor of Topeka, Kansas, writes as follows: "Dear Brother Rice:

"I just finished reading again your book, *Lodges Examined by the Bible*. Needless to say, I uttered a good many 'amens' while reading it.

"However, I was left with one question, not a serious one but one which I wish you would use a little time to answer. What do you think about Christians, especially ministers, belonging to such civic organizations as Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions' Club, et cetera. No doubt you have read the recent order that came out of Rome, concerning Catholic priests belonging to the Rotary Club. What do you think about that? I wonder, specifically, if you class the civic organizations and the secret orders in the same category? I would be thankful for your candid reply."

March 12, 1951

"Dear Brother H.....: "I cannot, in good conscience, make any fight on Kiwanis, Ro-

tary, Lions' Club, etc., because I do not find any clear Scripture forbidding attendance on their meetings. In two important matters they differ from secret orders.

"1. In lodges one takes a bloody oath binding on the conscience. But Jesus said in Matthew 5:34, 'Swear not at all,' and again James 5:12 says, 'But above all things, my brethren, swear not...' Lodge oaths are clearly forbidden. One does not have to take any such oath to be a member of a service club or other civic and community organizations.

"2. In joining a lodge or secret order one must bind himself to support the fellow members of the organization in preference to (Continued on page 4)

Answers to Bible Questions

(Continued from page 3)

others. For example, the lodge oath, if taken seriously, requires a lodge man to vote for his fellow lodge men when they run for office, buy groceries from lodge members in the grocery business and talk to his fellow lodge members about things which he swears he will not discuss with his pastor or wife, if they are not members of the same lodge. In other words, it is a yoke and expressly claims to be that. It binds saint and sinner together, and that is plainly forbidden. 'Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers' (II Cor. 6:14).

"I hope this will be helpful.

"I should like to say also that in

general I believe that many civic organizations do great good, and the general purpose of the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs are moral and helpful, in my judgment. In some local situations civic organizations have drinking and dancing at their social affairs and in such cases surely a Christian could not endorse either with his presence or money or influence. But where, properly conducted, civic organizations can do great good, and I do not see that Christians are forbidden to take part in them in that case.

"In the Saviour's name, yours,"

JOHN R. RICE

5. Did God Know That Sin Would Come Into the World?

"Dear Brother M.—:

"I am glad to answer your letter and will help you if I can.

"1. Certainly God knew that sin would come into the world, for we are plainly told that Jesus Christ was as a 'Lamb slain from the foundation of the world' (Rev. 13:8). That is, before the world began God had planned that Jesus Christ would die an atoning death to pay for the sins of mankind.

"2. God knew that man would sin. It seems that if man were to be created with freedom of the will, freedom of choice, that if he were tempted man would sin. At least it was certain that some men would sin when tempted. God could not make man automatically good without taking away man's choice and independence of will. But if a man were made like a machine, with no personal choice of his own, he could not will to know God and love God. No good man wants a girl to be compelled to marry him by law or force. He wants the girl of his choice to love him willingly and marry him by choice. And God wants that kind of love from us. So God had to make us with a free will and so with the ability to choose right or wrong.

"3. Now after sin has come into

the world, every person descended from Adam and Eve has a sinful nature, and so all are turned toward sin from the start.

"4. So God found it necessary to provide from the very first a way of salvation for sinners. When He made man, He made him free to choose. Thus it was planned before the world began that Christ should die for sinners.

"5. However, when one is born again and receives a new nature, his will is changed. While he is in the flesh with all its weakness and temptation, he may be led into sin, but his heart has already been turned and changed to love God and want to please Him. When our redemption is finished, that is, the 'adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body' mentioned in Romans 8:23, then no Christian will ever sin in the resurrected body because he will not wish to do so, but being a partaker of the divine nature, will be like his heavenly Father and like Jesus, his Saviour.

"Thank you for your question. I hope this will help you.

"In the Saviour's name, yours,"

JOHN R. RICE

6. Has God Changed His Mind About Woman's Place?

It is a common sin for people who do not like some teaching found in the Bible, to say that it is now out of date. Some ultra-dispensationalists say that baptism, though plainly commanded by Jesus Christ, is out of date. Modernists say that the claims of the Bible as the infallible revelation of God are out of date. And some others foolishly trying to please worldly people, think that perhaps God's commands to women in the Bible are now out of date.

The following letter deals with this matter:

"My dear Mr. S.....:

"Thank you for your letter. I will try to answer your questions.

"1. You say people in the church 'believe that Paul's commands regarding the women keeping silent and not usurping authority over the man were given soon after the people came out from under the law back in those days and now we have been so long under grace that the women should exercise equal authority in the teaching and administrations of all the functions of the body of believers.'

"On this matter see I Corinthians 11:3, which says: 'But I would have you to know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.' You see here is a divine order plainly given. God is the head of Christ, Christ is the head of the man, the man is the head of his wife. Does anybody really believe that God has changed that divine order? Is Christ now rebellious against the Father, for is He still subject to the Father? Can a man come to God the Father without coming to Christ? The Unitarians say so, but they are wrong. Well, if a part of that sentence is still true, then the rest of it is true. And if you read further in that same chapter you will see that Paul bases his command, that a woman should have long hair as a sign of her subjection to her husband or father, on this divinely-given principle that God is the

head of Christ, Christ is the head of the man, the man is the head of the woman.

"2. The idea that with the passing of the years God's plan would change and God would break His own New Testament rules and do away with them is foolish and unscriptural. Let me show you this in I Corinthians 14:34, 35 which says: 'Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.' Note that this rule that women are to be under obedience both to their husbands at home, and to male leaders in the church, coincides with the teaching of the Old Testament, 'as also saith the law.' Now, is that ceremonial law? Obviously not. In the first place, it is given in Genesis 3:16, long before the giving of the ceremonial law. In the second place, here God has it reiterated in the New Testament. Not a single ceremonial law is repeated in Paul's writings. Paul plainly tells them not to be circumcised, not to keep the Jewish dietary laws. They are not to be judged by these ceremonial laws (Col. 3:13-17). So this is not ceremonial law but moral law. I mean this is fundamentally right and eternally correct, just like the commands about murder, lying, stealing, adultery, etc. They are



This new pamphlet by Dr. John R. Rice will be sent free to every person requesting it during the Fourth Annual Letter Month. Write before June 27. Write today!

the unchanging moral law of God written in the heart. So women are always to be obedient to husbands, and to be in subjection in the public services, not taking a place of authority over men.

"Woman has a wonderful place both in the home and in the church. Women can win souls, can teach children and teach other women and bring all the blessing God can use a good woman to bring, without usurping authority over the man either in the home or in the church.

"This teaching is repeated in I Timothy 2:11-15 as follows: 'Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.'

"Again the Bible clearly says that woman's subjection to her husband and subjection to Christian leaders in the church, is in the very nature of the sexes, since Adam was first formed and then Eve, and since Adam was not deceived but the woman was first deceived. So the wife is to be subject to her husband, and subject to church leaders. And that is exactly what God said in Genesis 3:16: 'I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.' That fundamental difference between men and women, written in the very nature of the sexes, is eternally present and God's law is based on that difference.

"3. It is wrong to use Galatians 3:28 as if it contradicted other Scriptures. It does not. What a sin to take one of Paul's epistles, divinely inspired, and try to use it to contradict another of his epistles, divinely inspired! Galatians 3:28 says: 'There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female; for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.'

"As far as the plan of salvation is concerned, Jews and Greeks are exactly alike. As far as the plan of salvation is concerned, slaves and masters are exactly alike. As far as the plan of salvation is concerned, male and female are exactly alike. All are saved the same way—by faith in Christ.

"But does that mean that after one is saved there is no difference between the sexes? Well the next time you see some Christian people, look and see if you can tell the difference between the men and the women! If after salvation there is no difference between male and female, then why don't women marry women, and save all this problem about obedience? Both of them could be bosses and neither one of them obey the other. Actually when people are saved, men are still men and women are still women and Jews are still Jews, as far as their racial characteristics are concerned. Servants are still servants, bosses are still bosses.

"After people are saved, child-

ren are still not equal in authority with their parents. After people are saved, pupils are not equal in authority to the teachers. After people are saved, wives are still not equal in authority with their husbands. It would be a silly idea that until people are converted women are to obey their husbands and after they are converted it doesn't matter!

"Let me say again that happiness, both for men and women, is for each to be subject to the authorities that God has put over them. Christian children are to obey their parents. Christian citizens are to obey the government and keep the laws of the land. Christian pupils are to be subject to their teachers. Christian wives are to be subject to their husbands. Christian women in the church are to take a woman's position in the church, not usurping authority over the man but, as far as official leadership over the church is concerned, to remain in silence.

"I thank you for your letter and

I hope this will be helpful.

"In Jesus' name, yours,"

JOHN R. RICE

Three books by this editor deal with this matter of a woman's place in the home and church. The big book, *Home—Courtship, Marriage and Children*, has one full chapter on woman's place in the home, and many references and explanations of Scriptures concerning woman's duty toward her husband and children. The price is \$2.50. The clothbound book, 96 pages, *Bobbed Hair, Bossy Wives and Women Preachers*, deals very thoroughly with this whole issue, in a very kindly way. It sells for \$1.00. The pamphlet, *Rebellious Wives and Slacker Husbands*, 24 pages, 15c, deals with duties of both husband and wife. The Bible has the answer to happiness and success in the home as well as elsewhere and all who are wise should seek to know God's will in this matter, and to follow it. Those interested may order any of the above from The Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.

"This Man Receiveth Sinners"

(Continued from page 1)

not. Moody used to say the mother was dead, because she is not mentioned in the story—a very pretty realistic thought but not true, for the father in the story represents God, and God has both the father heart and the mother heart. "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you" (Isa. 66:13).

Of all the stories ever told, this one of the lost son is the best. It begins in the darkest night but ends in the brightest day. In Luke 15:11-16 we have the descent and degradation in sin. And it is a drab and fell tale. A good home of affluence, a kind father abundant to eat, plenty of servants, music and merriment, fellowship and fun are all forsaken because of "rebellion [which] is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness [which] is as iniquity and idolatry" (I Sam. 15:23).

This boy's behavior is a description of sin. He was unwilling to be ruled by his father. It is the essence of sin to resist God's will. Somebody told a story of a man who had killed another man in cold blood on Friday. During the slaying the victim's blood had spattered on the murderer's lips and he had tasted blood, or, as it seemed to him, had tasted meat on Friday, and the canons of his church said he must not eat meat on Friday, therefore he was in great distress, not because he had slain his fellow-man but because he had eaten meat on Friday contrary to the commands of his church. He had a superficial idea of sin. He could not have said like David; "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight." That man of the Roman church has many counterparts in other communions who think that sin is a superficial ceremonial matter of violating an arbitrary rule of a church or a flimsy custom of society. Sin is anything and everything that is contrary to or out of conformity with the will of God.

The Scripture says: "The thought of foolishness is sin"; "fools make a mock at sin";

DR. L. E. BARTON was graduated with M.A. from Union University. Honorary D.D. was conferred by the same institution in 1911. He has been pastor of good churches in Arkansas, Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, and Alabama; Secretary of Missions in Arkansas and Alabama; former Official Parliamentarian of The Southern Baptist Convention; He served as President of the Arkansas Baptist Convention; Vice-President of the Centennial Session of the General Association of Virginia; Vice-President of the Southern Baptist Convention; Chairman Committee on Constitution and By-Laws of the Southern Baptist Convention since 1942. He has been a delegate, twice, to International Rotary, and once to Kiwanis. Several tracts and brochures, many articles to religious papers and magazines, and three books, "Three Dimensions of Love," "Take Heed," and "Helps for Soul Winners," have been published by him. He received the oratorical graduating medal at Union. His college major was Greek. He has traveled in Mexico, Canada, England, and on the continent of Europe. Biographical sketches of the author appear in "Who's Who in America," "Who's Who in American Clergymen," "The Authors and Writers' Who's Who," published in London.

"ploughing of the wicked is sin"; "sin entered into the world, and death by sin"; "sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." By sin angels lost their first estate. By sin primitive man was driven from Edenic delights.

The prodigal son was not willing to be ruled by a loving father. He desired his part of the inheritance. He wanted to set up for himself and go on his own. He was not a home boy. No apron strings could bind him. He had to have his fling. Sowing wild oats was his life program regardless of what the harvest might be. How much men are alike in all ages! Today's paper told of a thirteen-year-old boy who "brained" his school teacher with a pipe wrench because she did not give him the grade he wanted. Yesterday's paper carried an advertisement of See-

(Continued on page 5)

CHRISTIAN GREETING CARDS

Our box of 24 beautiful Scripture Text Everyday folders is value unexcelled. Our Christ-honoring 21 folder Deluxe Christmas Assortment is now ready. Three boxes of one or both kinds sent postpaid for \$2. Money refunded if not entirely satisfied. Groups raise funds, agents make money selling our complete line of 30 Assortments. Profit up to 100%. Write for approval samples today.

SHEPHERD'S TOWN CARD CO., Box 86 Shepherdstown, Pa.

Dr. Bob Jones Says:

This is being written May 28, which is the day before the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bob Jones University. We are in the midst of a very wonderful Commencement. All of us agree that never before in the history of the school have we received such blessing and inspiration as we are having now. A number of people who came to attend the Commencement and enjoy the cultural and stimulating atmosphere for which Bob Jones University is known have been gloriously converted. For all of these blessings we praise our Heavenly Father.

You friends are familiar with our effort to raise a million-dollar Student Loan Endowment Fund, and you know that we have been ambitious to raise one-half of the million dollars by the time the school year closes. Well, we are glad to

tell you that we have the half million dollars. We told you recently about the friend who sent us the check for \$10,000 to start the second half million. We have also told you about the friend who has promised to give the last \$50,000 of the million dollars. We are asking you Christian people to pray earnestly that God may move upon the hearts of His people so they will send in enough money to help us reach the million-dollar goal. We thank all of you who have helped us in the past, and we are sure that you wish to help us more. Please keep praying for us and do the best you can to help us reach the million-dollar goal as quickly as possible. Thank you and God bless you.

BOB JONES, Founder
Bob Jones University
Greenville, S. C.

"This Man Receiveth Sinners"

(Continued from page 4)

gram, liquor dealer, picturing a boy begging his "Dad" to drink liquor with moderation so the family could be happy.

Sin Takes Total Risk

When the father graciously divided unto them his living, the younger son hurriedly "gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted [squandered] his substance with riotous living." What do men care that sin will eat out their moral fiber, destroy the vital forces of their bodies, land them in infirmity and decrepitude, and write drunkenness in their countenance, and adultery in their leering look and wanton eyes? What does the waster care about want and poverty around the corner if he can "splurge" in splendor today?

This boy risked everything in his venture. So does the sinner. He staked all on one throw of the dice, "made a heap of all his winnings and risked it all on one game of pitch and toss."

A story says one of the richest diamond mines of all the Kimberly fields was discovered on this wise. A stranger passed through a valley where two boys were playing and throwing stones at each other. One stone fell near the traveler who picked it up and was about to return it laughingly to one of the lads when his heart beat fast and faster still for his trained eyes saw the flash and sparkle of a diamond in the large nugget he held in his hand. From this was discovered one of the richest fields in all the world. Who are those boys? They are the deluded, blind mortals who are toying with their immortal souls; who are bartering their birthright for the Devil's mess of pottage; who are selling all life's opportunities and their soul's future for the pleasures of sin for a season. They are fools enough to think that every day will be fair weather and storms will not come. But "when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that country and he began to be in want." When his substance was gone, calamity howled. When hunger arrived, only bones were in the cupboard. When the sin market collapsed, all his savings went in a lump. Sin always pays off and its currency is poverty, hunger, disease and death.

His Degradation Complete

The Saviour drew here a picture of the degrading power of sin. This boy was a Jew. He came from a home of wealth and comfort. He had been taught to loathe the very name of swine. He was not permitted to own swine or to traffic in them. They were unclean, corrupt, and taboo. But now his calamities have thrust him into a swine pen as herder of hogs. He has sold himself to a citizen of that country. The Greek word means "glued himself" to a citizen. He had given an ironclad mortgage on himself, body and soul. Had shut the gate of hope and decency behind him.

That is a graphic picture of what sin does. Sometimes boys are reared in good homes under good counsel and then go into evil associations and contract bad habits and go from bad to worse and become so degraded and shameless that they could not return home and look into their father's face or put their arms around their pure mothers and kiss them without feeling that they are moral lepers who should be spurned from the door.

But enough of the gutter. Hope has not altogether perished. "Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter, feelings lie buried that grace can restore." There is always something hopeful about the man who takes inventory of himself. "But when he came to himself he said: How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, [are surrounded with bread] and I perish with hunger!" Sin is a species of insanity. It is abnormal, absurd, unreasonable, dementia to reject the loving God, your best Friend and only helper. This is a friendly contrast. Think of servants having plenty and to spare every day while a son of the

same home languishes in a foreign land and suffers hunger! "Am I not in a pretty plight, have I not played the fool?" "What shall I do?" "Oh, yes," he says, "I know what I shall do." "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee, in thy sight, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants." He did not soft peddle his bad conduct. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

In his first epistle John says, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." Then again, "If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." John puts it in both a present and a past tense. Any one who says he has no sin is laboring under complete delusion. If he says he never sinned, he charges God with being a liar. There is no forgiveness for those who deny their sins. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy," says a proverb. The door of mercy is wide open to every confessing sinner, but solidly sealed against every lying culprit who by denying his sins makes God out a liar.

The Home Coming

Resolutions in the present tense and in the subjunctive mood are powerless to rescue men from ruin. But when it can be said: "He arose and came to his father," we know all is well. If it had said nothing else, we could have filled in the picture. Some stupid one said: "The strangest part of the story is that the father received him after all his willful life." Mr. Spurgeon said: "That is not strange to me, for knowing God as I know Him and how He treats confessing sinners, I think that is the most natural part of the story." The great London preacher was exactly right. Sooner would the heavens fall and the sun be blotted out than God would fail to receive a humble sinner asking for mercy. How good it is to come home and how delightful to see men come home to God!

I was preaching one Sunday night forty-five years ago in a revival in the Second Baptist Church, Petersburg, Virginia, telling this story of how God receives sinners. A broad-shouldered, flax-haired young Swede, a wrest-

ler and giant of strength, sat in the middle row of pews, on the end of the second seat from the rear, next to the church aisle, to the left-hand side as you entered the building. He had come to the city for a wrestling match Friday night before and came to the front of the church and the Christian boys got him to come in to the service. I knew he was a Swede but was ignorant of his mission to the city. It was plain also that he was not a Christian and that he was affected by the gospel. My soul went out to him and my heart cried to God for his salvation. How I preached for that young giant that night; but he did not come to me, but maybe he did come to Jesus. He was out and gone with no chance for me to speak to him. However, he said to the young men: "Boys, that preacher wres-

tled me much harder tonight than did that fellow at the armory Friday night. I soon disposed of him, but I had a terrible time with this preacher tonight." That youngster had not seen his dear mother in Sweden for eight years. The vision of his face is clear across the years tonight and tear glands overflow as the spirit hopes that Christ ensnared him in His heavenly compassion and sent him home happy to his mother. How marvelous it is and blessed for sinners to come home to God!

Now look at this home scene. "And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him." Rather an undignified affair. The foot-sore and weary lad plodding the homeward way conscious of his sins and shame, and an old man

peering, with his hand over his eyes, far down the road as the patient pilgrim limps on his bleeding feet. Then the father sprints down the path some furlongs and falls on the neck of his child in a paroxysm of joy. The father kissed him again and again, kept on kissing him. Christ used the word for kiss (*phileo*) with a perfective preposition which expresses the idea of reduplication. He kissed him much, many times, just kept on kissing him.

Wife and I were going one Christmas to visit our daughter. A car coming to meet me turned to the middle of the road, then on my side. I "honked" and "honked" but he pulled across the road and quickly toward a house to my right. A motherly woman hurried to the gate as he jumped from the car and rushed to her arms.

(Continued on page 6)

YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUR HOME?

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By Evangelist JOHN R. RICE

Here are books that your young people will read and re-read, show their friends and refer to often. Written in the simple, understandable and charming style of an outstanding evangelist, these chapters have a straightforward honesty that young people will respect. And these vital subjects will appeal to all young folk and fill a real need in each life.

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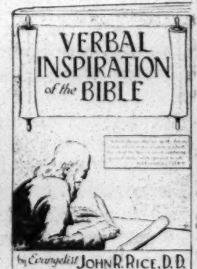
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NAME

ADDRESS

NEGLECT IS A SIN!

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip."—Heb. 2:1.

"... you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago. Now therefore perform the doing of it..."—II Cor. 8:10,11.

By the Editor

Neglect is the main travelled road to Hell. In Hebrews 2:3 is the unanswerable question, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...?" Sinners hear the gospel, they admit they are sinners, they know they must die, they expect to be saved some day—they neglect, they postpone, they dally, and they wake up in Hell lost forever.

One of the things in favor of the prodigal son is that when he said, "I will arise and go to my father," he then "arose and came unto his father." He resolved, then he acted. He decided to go, and he arose and went. He saw it was right to confess his sin, and he made his confession. Someone has said, "The road to Hell is paved with good intentions." To intend to be saved, but to postpone it until tomorrow, is a sin, and often it is tragic, irremediable folly. The Scripture says, "Today if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts" (Heb. 3:7).

It is folly and wickedness to delay what one knows is his duty. An

old proverb says, "Do not put off until tomorrow what you should do today." The Bible holds up example after example of those who sinned by neglect.

Pharaoh, when asked when he would let the people go, and when he should have God's blessing, said, "Tomorrow." Jesus gave a parable of a young man who was commanded by his father, "Go work in my vineyard." He said, "I go," but he went not. Christians are always making good resolutions and not living up to them. That is a sin. It is folly.

We plan to begin to tithe, but we need the money for something



Before June 27, Please!

else. We plan to start a family altar, but it isn't convenient, as all the family does not meet together. We are going to have the early morning watch and read the Scriptures and pray, but we get up late, and we will begin that later, we think.

We have loved ones unsaved. We will surely talk to them about the Lord Jesus soon, we resolve. Yet we let them move away, or become hardened in sin, or die and wake up in Hell, without ever receiving the warning we promised God we would give. We let our own children grow up without the spiritual question of all questions being settled, their own soul's salvation. O God, forgive Your people the sin of neglect!

It is a part of good Christian character to decide what ought to be done, then do it. Paul wrote to those at Corinth, "And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago." They had already been talking and promising how much money they would raise for the poor saints at Jerusalem. So Paul continues, "Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to

and wants you to come. Loving arms will enfold you, kisses will cover your lips, the open door of the mansion will admit you safe within, and music and joy ineffable will fill your heart forevermore if you will only come home. "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:17).

Come to Christ Today

You have read the above sermon, "This Man Receiveth Sinners," by Dr. Barton. I wonder, are you a prodigal, a sinner away from God, unsaved? If so, let the editor now beg you to make your decision and to come to Christ today for forgiveness and salvation. You know that you are a sinner. Surely you believe that Christ died to save sinners. Will you here and now turn from your sin and come to God? Will you in your heart admit your guilt and trust Christ to forgive and save you now? The heavenly Father wants to be your Father, wants to make you His child, wants to clothe you in His righteousness, wants to cleanse you and save you forever! If you will trust Christ here and now, turning to Him honestly in your heart, I beg you to sign the following decision form. Then copy it in a letter and mail it to me at once. I will notify Dr. Barton and we will both rejoice over your salvation. And I will send you a letter of encouragement and of counsel. I beg you to decide and sign and write today.

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
The Sword of the Lord
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read Dr. Barton's sermon, "This Man Receiveth Sinners." I realize I am a poor, lost sinner. I believe that Christ died to save me and is willing to forgive me now. Therefore, I here and now trust Jesus Christ to be my personal Saviour. I give Him my heart. By His grace and help, I will set out to live for Him and will claim Him before others as my Saviour.

SIGNED

ADDRESS

Date

will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have" (II Cor. 8:10,11). Yes, many who read this have willed, but have not performed the doing of it.

Apply This Teaching to Yourself!

We have no hesitation in applying this Bible principle to the Sword Letter Month. Every year we spend thousands of dollars trying to get people to renew their subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, people who intend to renew, who love the paper, who write us good letters when they do finally get around to renewing their subscription. But I say that we send tens of thousands of letters that we ought never to have to write. That is because people will to do, but do not perform it. They know what is right, intend to do it, but they let it slip. They neglect the simple duty and privilege of sending in their renewal subscription. I ask every reader to consider if it would not be a thing to please God, a forward step in your own Christian character, if you would just say that you will take the responsibility yourself to send your subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD in advance. For example, during Letter Month you could send \$5 for a three years' subscription. That would entitle you to the \$2 Billy Graham book, *Revival In Our Time*, with accounts of his great revivals, with pictures of Billy Graham, his party, etc., and with six of Billy Graham's sermons. You would save money by sending the subscription now, and you would get the added premium of this Billy Graham book, a beautiful clothbound book selling regularly for \$2. But better yet, you would save yourself from missing any copy of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. When your present subscription runs out, we would simply have added to it already the three years of your renewal. We would

never have to write you a letter, and you would not have to miss a copy. It is not right for Christian people to have to be reminded again and again to do what they want to do and ought to do and plan to do. Christians should not neglect in such a matter. Why not send your subscription today?

The same principle applies to books that you need and ought to have. We are making a special offer on six very popular books during this Letter Month. Here are six books selling at from \$1.25 to \$1.75 per copy, but you may have any three of them for \$3, or as many as you like for \$1 each if ordered in lots of three or more. They are:

1. *Little Pilgrim's Progress* by Helen Taylor. 256 pages, dozens of drawings, the story of *Pilgrim's Progress* rewritten for children selling regularly for \$1.50.

2. *Old-Time Religion*. 12 fervent revival sermons by Dr. Joe Henry Hankins, strong Southern evangelist, selling regularly for \$1.75.

3. *Household Salvation*. 9 revival sermons by this Scottish-Canadian-American evangelist with a burr in his tongue and the humor in his soul, and the power of God upon his pen, John Linton. It sells regularly for \$1.50.

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5. *Twelve Tremendous Themes*. 177 pages of simple, thrilling, Scriptural teaching on great doctrines by John R. Rice. Price \$1.50.

6. *Soul-Winner's Fire*, clothbound. 8 messages on soul-winning passion and power to make you a soul winner. Selling for \$1.25.

You ought to order these books while it is on your mind, if you want them. You are the one to decide, but if they appeal to you, I think you should write while you (Continued on page 8)

"This Man Receiveth Sinners"

(Continued from page 5)

It looked as if she could never quit kissing him. He had been long from home and now was hurrying to his mother's arms for her Christmas greeting. That is what this father did, "He kept on kissing him." How beautifully Jesus tells the story!

There are five things told here about God's state of mind when a repentant sinner starts home to God.

1. God saw him when he was a long way off. He was looking for him. Was anxious for him to come. He meets men far down the road when they come home.

2. He was moved with compassion. That means "to suffer with." It hurts God for men to continue in sin and reject Him.

3. He ran. God was in a hurry. Moody said this is the only time God was ever represented as being in a hurry. He had infinite leisure to mold the universe, and set the stars in their immeasurable distances. "One day with the Lord is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. He can dissipate the things of a day over a millennium, or cram and crush the happenings of a thousand years into twenty-four hours. But He is in a hurry when a sinner starts home.

4. He fell on his neck, and gathered the boy's ragged garments and filthy body in the arms of His divine love.

5. He showered hot love kisses on the boy so fast and long that it seems the son could not say: "Make me as one of thy hired servants."

The father made no response to the son's confession. That was received in silence. The prodigal's sins were many and without excuse. They could be forgiven but could not be palliated. But the father's conduct showed the sins were forgiven and forgotten. He treats him as His honored son. He is a loved child and not a servant. "Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry." That reception is good enough for a prince who is also a child.

"Put the best robe on him" is symbolic of giving him a new and godly character. That is "putting off the old man according to the former manner of life and putting on the new man Christ Jesus." God is the spiritual Father of believers only, but He is creator of all, and the figure of fatherhood is used to show His compassion for the lost.

New life, new character, new garments are given to prodigals when they arise and go to their Father. Their down-hanging hands are lifted up to receive a ring, the symbol of honor, love and distinc-

tion, yea, that carries the insignia of authority for the signing of contracts and sealing of bargains in the name of the King. Their lacerated feet are shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace so they may run and not be weary, and may walk and not faint. A swineherd from the Devil's den is transformed into a Prince of the Palace of the King. A bound slave glued to "a citizen of that country" may become a citizen of the kingdom of God. Instead of wading through the filth and mire of a pigsty, you may walk the streets of gold in Paradise and eat the fruit of the tree of life which is for the healing of all nations of men who dwell on the face of the earth. Instead of longing for the husks that swine did eat, you may sit at the banquet table in the marriage feast of the Lamb whence those who are within shall never desire to depart and those without shall not be permitted to enter and defile the heavenly habitation.

Many years ago in Suffolk, Virginia, Leslie Brinkley, a fourteen or fifteen-year-old boy ran away from home. I went at once to see his mother and aunt. Opening the door, one walked into the hall and then the living room. The closed blinds and drawn curtains made the room dark, weird, and somber as a funeral parlor. Dressed in black, the mother half rose to take my hand and said: "I don't know what made him go away, I have tried to be a very kind mother." My belief was that she had "spared the rod and spoiled the child." We read the Book and commended the wayward boy to God's merciful providence and asked that his steps might be turned homeward.

The next Sunday the mother was not at church, although she was usually present the same as the pastor. But Sunday night she and her sister came early with faces radiant as the morning light and voices cheery as the song of birds. No statement that Leslie had come home was necessary. Their shining faces, gleaming eyes, and lithe movement as they entered the church proclaimed the news. Before she could reach me she was almost shouting: "Leslie came this morning! Leslie came this morning! and I just had to stay at home to cook a good dinner for the poor child, for he had been away a week and had no good food such as he is used to at home."

Oh, that is what happens when a wayward child comes home, and that is what happens when a sinner comes to God for forgiveness.

Some of you have been a long time away from God. The night is dark, the road is rugged and long, and you are far from home. But the Father will meet you far down the path. He is watching for you

Cooperating for Soul Winning

(Continued from page 1)

I talk to you this morning about how far we can go without compromising. I want you to notice the emphasis is "without compromising." How far can we go?

Don't go any way unless you can go without compromising. If you have to compromise, don't do it. Don't compromise! That is the curse of this country today. We have plenty of good Christian people in our evangelical denominations, but the trouble is they won't stand for their convictions. That is what has got us in the mess we are in, and we are in a mess!

This great revival in this country may fool you. I have been studying these revival movements very closely in recent months. There are very few of what you call real all-church revivals on in America.

Many years ago when I started out as an evangelist, if you went to a city for a meeting you had everything. There were no modernists in town. The churches were all in it. They were not all spiritual people, but they all believed in spiritual things. As long as a man believes the Bible, believes there is a God in Heaven and is scared to death there is a Hell, there is hope for him. But when a fellow is not afraid there is any Hell and does not know whether Jesus was virgin born or not, there is not much hope for him. But back in those days everybody in this country believed the Bible.

When I was a boy, I remember the first modernist I ever knew. He was an old prominent Methodist preacher. Do you know how far he went? He just said that he did not believe that God commanded Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. He said Abraham just imagined it. When I was a boy they were trying that fellow for heresy in the Methodist church for that statement. My, that is almost orthodox in some churches now. If a fellow does not go any further than that, he is a pretty good fellow. You elect him president of the holiness convention, give him some high, exalted position somewhere. How things have changed!

In those days we had great meetings. We got together and the churches had great gatherings. Some of the greatest revivals in

this country today are revivals where people are being saved who are church members. Now, we just as well face it. There are a lot in the church who have never been born again, who are not right with God. They have been brought in by all sorts of methods—"One win one"—any way to get them in.

I went over to the Billy Graham campaign in South Carolina. That was a great revival. There were four thousand people present the night I was there. When he gave the invitation, there were 230 people converted. They were dealt with honestly. They were dealt with in a real way. But do you know what some of the preachers were saying? "We didn't get any members." Well, they got some converts anyway.

Now in the old revival people were usually converted when they joined the church, genuinely converted, or claimed to be. They may have been backslidden or out of fellowship, but they claimed to be converted.

(Continued on page 8)

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By Dr. John R. Rice

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Household Salvation

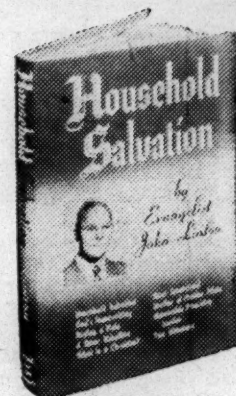
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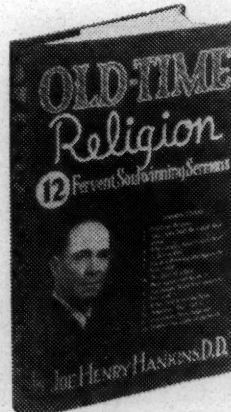


CHAPTER TITLES

1. Household Salvation
2. God's Two Witnesses
3. Three Specimens of God's Handwriting
4. Buying a Field
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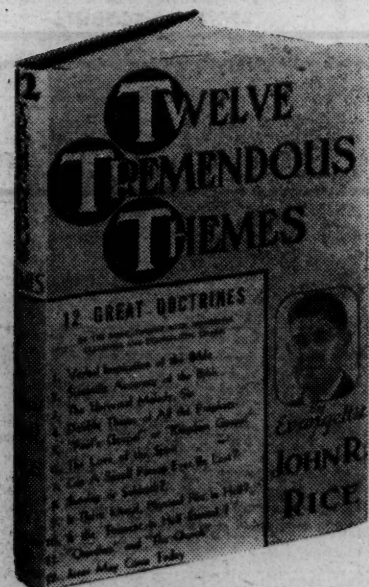
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Neglect Is a Sin!

(Continued from page 6)

can save money. And if you send for five or more of them for \$1 each, you get free the \$2 Billy Graham book also. Or you may buy three of these and a one year subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD for \$2 and get the Billy Graham book free. But if you need the books, order them now.

There are other books which we publish, books with the anointing of God on them, books that change the life, that explain the Bible, that help people to win souls, that make Christians sound in doctrine, that inspire preachers. While you get extra premiums, and while it is on your mind, I urge you to send for them now. I believe that many a Christian misses blessings that he intends to get simply by postponing such a simple matter as ordering a Christian book. What a shame and a pity that Christians read so much trash, and read so few Spirit-filled, Bible-honoring books. And they do it usually because they postpone and neglect the little task of writing the letter. If someone would hand you the book, you would hand him the money gladly. But do you dally, and delay, and postpone ordering the book you want, for lack of decision? Do not defraud yourself by neglect. Do it now!

Someone plans to help us get out the gospel far and near. A letter came today from Japan. One man is starting out to hire a number of assistants, pay his own expenses, and tour Japan preaching and giving out pamphlets, books, and tracts. He would like to have up to a million copies of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" I do not know whether we can furnish that many or not, but we ought to furnish all that he will carefully give. They will be read. Japanese missionaries tell us that a gospel tract is never refused and never thrown down without reading in hungry-hearted Japan.

We want to supply these booklets in the Japanese language. A letter comes today asking for the same tract in Portuguese. A woman writes that her mother has cancer, will soon die, is unsaved. She can read only Portuguese. We are having the pamphlet translated now, but it is not yet ready. We promised \$500 worth of this booklet in the Portuguese language for distribution in Portugal, and then to begin distribution in Brazil. That will take money. We have sent \$1,081.90 to India for the printing and distribution of the booklet there, must send more. We have great need further in Japan, in the Philippine Islands, and among the armed services of our own country. Many of you have had a holy resolve forming in your heart to help in this good work. When you read that the Japanese naval commander who led the 360 bombing planes that attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941,

had been converted and now was using the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" to preach the gospel, many of you thought you would like to help in this good work. When you heard that 2,800 souls claimed to have found Christ through this booklet in Japanese, you made a resolution. Now "perform the doing of it," as the Scriptures admonish us.

Remember, Letter Month closes Wednesday, June 27. You must get your letter in the mail and postmarked by midnight of that date, if you are to get the special privileges and gifts which we offer. We will have only one more issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD in which we can remind you. But why should Christians, born-again people, always be reminded to do right? Why not do it now?

Remember the booklet, *Bloody Hands and How to Cleanse Them*, is sent absolutely free to everyone who writes a letter and asks for it. There are 32 large pages, 2 chapters on soul winning. Be sure to ask for your copy. The pamphlet of 24 large pages on *Infidels—Answered By 3 Immortals* is free if you send a cash retail order of from \$1 up to \$4.99. But you must ask for the booklet if you want it. The three immortals answering infidels are B. H. Carroll, R. A. Torrey, and D. L. Moody. The book is good for all the doubters and skeptics, and it is wonderfully helpful, inspiring reading for Christians. It will strengthen the faith of young people. It will convict and lead sinners to Christ. Ask for your copy if you send a cash retail order of \$1, and less than \$5. Remember also that with every cash retail order of \$5 or more, you may have a free copy of the Billy Graham book, *Revival in Our Time*. This \$2 book has eight pages of pictures, has descriptions of some of his great revivals, has six sermons by good Billy Graham. It is a clothbound library book which you will cherish. But be sure to ask for it with cash retail orders of \$5 or more.

Remember that every letter chosen for publication which comes in during Letter Month will be rewarded \$2 credit, which you may apply on subscriptions, books, Bibles, or anything we get out for the Lord.

Christian, neglect is a sin! I beg you in Jesus' name to send a subscription for others or the renewal of your own subscription, or the book order which you ought to send. Whatever God has laid on your heart that you ought to do, do it now.

And I say this unselfishly, earnestly hoping that we will be able to be a blessing to you. And of course we will delight in your Letter-Month letters.

Write today to the Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.

Cooperating for Soul Winning

(Continued from page 6)

So don't judge this present revival. It is an uprising of hungry-hearted people. It is the strangest movement this country ever knew.

Listen, if we had had no more support thirty years ago than we have now, we would have had none of those great meetings. The greatest revivals the world ever saw, considering the efforts made to produce them, we are having right now. These revivals are great movements of the Spirit of God in lifting up the mass. So we Christian people ought to think these things through and decide what we are going to do, how far we can go together without compromising.

A Personal Testimony On Cooperation

From my long experience I have learned that God's people can work together without compromising anything. As a matter of fact, they will work together.

I was converted at a Methodist altar. My mother was a good old country Baptist. There was no Baptist church near us. I went up and joined the Methodist church, went home and told my mother. She said, "Well Son, you know

I'm a Baptist. I wonder what you are going to do. You're going to be immersed, aren't you?" The first thing you know, she shoved me off to the creek! I was immersed in a little country creek down there in southeast Alabama by an old-time Methodist preacher.

Now, this Methodist preacher did not go back to John the Baptist, but he had been immersed! I could trace it that far back. He had been under water. So that was as far as I got with him. But he believed in immersion. The original position of the Methodist church was that it was up to the individual to settle that for himself. That was the old position taken.

When I was a boy a great many of the Methodist converts were immersed. When I held my first revivals out in the country as a boy, half of my converts went under water. I kept those Methodist preachers going to creeks all the time! I was not ordained or licensed so I went out and exhorted the people. Where I held meetings, everybody knew I was an immersionist. I never argued about it, never debated it, never discuss-

IT PAID THESE TO WRITE US!

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During Letter Month, for each letter we choose to print, the writer is sent a credit slip entitling him to \$2 which may be used on subscriptions or any books we publish or offer for sale. In addition to the remarkable saving on selected books mentioned elsewhere in this paper, as an added attraction, and as a blessing to others, we will send YOU—if your letter is selected—a credit slip of \$2. We want to know, and want others to know, how you have been blessed through the ministry of the Sword books and paper. Tell us how you have been blessed, or tell of the influence of Sword ministry on others. Mainly, we want a letter! And we eagerly await word from you during this Letter Month period.

We print below some of the letters which came in, in a week's time. Note how grateful some of them are for a gift subscription. In many cases such people received THE SWORD OF THE LORD as a gift from the Ministers and Missionary Subscription fund, supplied by gifts of SWORD readers. Somebody's \$2 gift to this fund was abundantly rewarded, according to these written testimonies.

Sword Book Used as a Guide in Church; Constitution Changed to Include Them

"...I have many of your books and get a real blessing from them, as well as THE SWORD paper. In my other letter, with the order for books, I ordered several copies of your books on *Tobacco and Divorce*. We are revising our church constitution, and we are planning to use these books as a guide and also as source material in a supplementary fashion to the Constitution. We especially like your book, *Tobacco*..."

Rev. Floyd Gee
Linden, Indiana

Couple Saved Through Sword Literature

"May 15, 1951
"Your SWORD has been a blessing to my family and me. Since this is letter month I want to let you know about it. We, like so many others, had THE SWORD sent to us by someone else. I guessed who it was though after a few editions, and I am truly grateful. I can truly say it was through your SWORD and book, *The Home*, that my husband and I have been born again..."

Mrs. Samuel Keast
Trucksville, Pa.

"Power of Pentecost" Book Revolutionizes Preacher's Ministry

"May 7, 1951
"...I have seen and read a number of your books, but recently have been given a copy of *The Power of Pentecost*. It has completely revolutionized my thinking on the teaching of the Scriptures on the Holy Spirit and given me a longing such as I have never known before for His power in my life and ministry. At present I am reading *We Can Have Revival Now!* with very great blessing to my own soul, and I do thank the Lord who, through your books, has brought me into a new spiritual experience, and given me a new vision of all that evangelism means.

"I am actually a fully ordained Baptist minister, but have recently spent a year in South Australia in interdenominational evangelistic work. Returning to this land, I shall be engaged in full-time evangelism with Youth for Christ, a movement which God is undoubtedly blessing, not only in

ed it. Everybody accepted it. So I said, "If everybody accepts, why argue about it? Why spend time debating about something everybody accepts? Everybody says it's all right, so why argue about it and divide the people of God and have controversies?" So I went along.

The first thing I knew I was preaching. I do not even know when I started. They say I was fifteen years old. But really, I was calling mourners when I was twelve. I would go out and speak at little Sunday school meetings and somebody would be saved. It was a strange thing how God came to me as a boy.

I went ahead. Then the Methodist church licensed me to preach. I went up and down the country holding revival meetings. I put up my brush arbors, held my own

(Continued on page 10)

reading and felt that it was a blessing to me."

Rev. R. Ekstein
West Kildonan, Man., Canada

Missionary in Spain Writes

"April 21, 1951

"I have already thanked the dear friend who sent me the subscription to THE SWORD. When I received the first copy I was at a place spiritually where I sighed and groaned within myself. Being a missionary, I felt my responsibilities and I never slackened but I was dry as a bone! This condition did not make me very happy, so I wrote friends to pray and one of them not only prayed but acted and sent the something that caused the curse. There is lots of room for improvement, but THE SWORD brought a much needed 'shower of blessing.' I feel different; I am different, and the preaching is different, too. Praise the Lord for your ministry.

"My lot has always been to labour in virgin territory where there are many prejudices to break down and where teaching is simple until it is understood. Though far away from Christian fellowship which we miss, yet we are always happy in the service of the King. His grace is sufficient. I am happy that He lays it upon our hearts to work where it is the most needed. I was not sad but just dry, dry, dry! Almost eleven years of pouring out to others with no chances to hear any messages had me in that condition. I was quite desperate about this, for I knew I could not do or give of my best to the Lord, so I called on others to lift up our hands. If I was happy labouring for Him before, now I am thrilled and full of joy.

"THE SWORD is unique in the respect that while reading, one feels even as if one were seated among the congregation listening to the evangelists or preachers. At least this is my experience. I write all my friends and tell them about your periodical. In a few days you will probably receive an order which I have made through my sister in Florida. My husband and I covet your prayers for Spain..."

Esther B. de Blanco
Austurias, Spain

Public School Teacher Enters Full-Time Christian Service

"May 11, 1951

"Although I have other reasons for writing, you may consider this my Letter Month letter. I surely have been greatly blessed by THE SWORD OF THE LORD publications during the past ten years. In fact, I believe it was through reading THE SWORD that I felt led to give up public school teaching to come to Grand Rapids to enter full-time Christian service. Your paper continues to be a source of inspiration to me in the Lord's work, and whenever I can I recommend it and pass it on to others..."

Elsie M. Gustafson
office secretary at Mel Trotter Rescue Mission
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Letter Month Order Coupon

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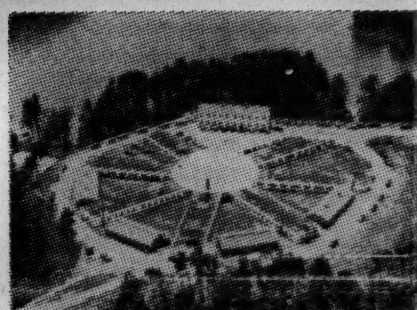
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- June 23-30 LAKE LOUISE CHILDREN BIBLE CAMP (Ages 8-15)
- June 30-July 7 OVERCOMERS BIBLE CONFERENCE Dr. Chas. Seidenspinner, Director
- July 9-15 SWORD OF THE LORD CONFERENCE Dr. John R. Rice, Director
- July 15-21 CHICAGO HEBREW MISSION (Dr. Torrey Johnson, Pres.) Rev. Milton Lindberg, Director
- July 21-28 CHRISTIAN BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN OF AMERICA. Mrs. Helen Baugh, National Director
- July 28-30 MIRACLE BOOK CLUB Mrs. E. M. McClusky, Director
- July 30-Aug. 5 SUDAN INTERIOR MISSION Rev. Farris W. Reidhead, Jr., Director
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- Aug. 13-18 FISHERS OF MEN (National Convention) Chief Walter A. Anderson, Pres., Director
- Aug. 19-26 YOUTHSPARATION CAMP Rev. "Rog" Malsbary, Director
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Cooperating for Soul Winning

(Continued from page 8)

campaigns. The second revival I ever held was in a brush arbor. I built it myself—a little old country boy. We organized a church of fifty-four members out there in the woods.

I just kept going. One day I ran into a Methodist preacher friend of mine and he said, "Say, do you tell everybody you're an immersionist?"

I said, "Yes."

"Well, you ought to get out of the Methodist church if you're an immersionist." Now, of course, he was not true to the position of the Methodist church. He said that you ought to get out if you're an immersionist.

I said, "Well, no. They say it is up to the individual. I believe in immersion myself."

Robert Stewart MacArthur, president of World Baptist Alliance, was preaching in Atlanta. I went over to see him. He came down to the lobby of the hotel. I said, "Doctor, I want to talk to you. You know I want to do right. I want to be consistent. I'm interested in soul winning. I was baptized in a country creek and my old country Baptist mother got me under water. I haven't stopped to argue about anything, to debate anything. I just keep preaching and getting people saved. I want to know what to do."

He said, "What do you mean?"

I said, "Well, the presiding elder tells me I ought to get out. He says if I am an immersionist that I ought to get out."

He said, "Well, I want to ask you some questions." So he asked me several very personal questions. "Do you have to do anything to compromise?"

"No, I'm a preacher."

You know sometimes we get so messed up. God hasn't called us all to do exactly the same thing. Paul said, "I'm not called to baptize, I'm called to preach!" God called me to preach. That is my job. I told Dr. MacArthur that.

He said, "Now Son, listen. I was not twenty-four years old. You're a young man. You have a life to invest. There is only one question, How can you best invest it? What can you do in the way of investing your life so as to get the gospel to the most people possible, in the shortest time possible, and get the most people saved possible?" He said, "If I were you, I would just go on preaching. Every good orthodox Baptist will be for you if you preach the gospel. The orthodox Presbyterians will be for you. The orthodox Methodists will be for you. The orthodox Christians of all denominations will be for you. They always respond to the gospel."

I ought to have known that. I had observed as I went up and down the country that when I held a meeting with a Methodist church, a Baptist preacher down the street, living way down here maybe to himself, an old-time fellow who looked like a prophet of the Old Testament... or some other preacher would come in and sit down, and listen. He would sit back in the rear and listen as I preached the gospel. Then he began to move forward. The next day the Presbyterian preacher would be there. He would move forward. The first thing you knew they were up at the front praying over sinners and taking their names. There is no trouble getting God's people to work together as long as you preach the gospel. The division comes from under-scoring certain things, giving too much emphasis to certain things. We can get together on some things, and the wonderful thing is that they are the essential things!

Christian Unity Does Not Mean Organic Union

Let me make myself plain. I do not believe in the organic union of the churches. The meanest thing the Devil is putting over on ecclesiastical machinery today is in trying to build one great big church. You get all these churches together and the Devil will have to swallow just one time—just one swallow, that's all. As long as we are divided and have a group here and a group yonder, he

cannot swallow us all at one time. I am against the organic union of the churches, and that is where we are headed. That is where we are tending to head up in the apostasy—a great religious machinery. In fact, I am awfully afraid of too much machinery anyway. We have so much ecclesiastical machinery we just spend our time holding up the walls to keep them from falling in. We have so much organization that it takes a whole church to maintain it. It is a tragic picture.

Now, we Christian people are not going to stand for organic union. They that know God hear us. You know, you don't have to sell music to a musician. You play the fiddle and he pats his foot. He may not know the technique, but he has it in his heart.

I can go anywhere in this country and preach the gospel of the grace of God to any crowd, strictly the essential fundamentals, and be sweet and nice and gentlemanly and Christian. I have all God's people with me—not organically, but individually. You cannot pull them off. That is why they take to these evangelists. Listen, you cannot put over a spiritual program without spiritual people. Spiritual people respond to the evangelistic gospel appeal. They will stand back of you.

A real born-again Christian will put up with a great deal to get the gospel preached. He might not like the fellow's style, but he likes what he says.

I was in a dining room one time and I did not like the waitress who brought me some food. She was awkward. She was not pretty! I am an old man, but I know a good looking woman when I see one! She wasn't pretty, she wasn't attractive. She was awkward. She served a meal, but I didn't like her. Her style wasn't my style. I would hate to have been married to that woman. She wasn't my style of a woman. But I didn't eat her; I ate what she brought me. And she brought me something good to eat!

I know many a preacher whose style isn't my style. If I had been making him, I might have made him different. But when he dishes out the gospel, I take it, I'm for it. It is not the man who brings it to me; it is what he brings. They that know God hear us. We can get individual Christians in this country together to win lost people to Jesus Christ. We have enough in every community if they would just get together. And they can get together without sacrificing anything.

I like the old Texas Baptist idea way back in the old days. They said, "We don't want union meeting, but we'll have a cooperating meeting." See? Now, I like that. In other words, we are cooperating. No organic setup of union, but we're cooperating.

When I was a boy we used to have log rollings in the country. The trees were cut down and we had to roll the logs and pile them up. We all got together to roll the logs. The neighbors would come in, we would roll the logs, pile them up, then burn them. When the log rolling was over, each fellow went back home. We had no organic get together. Families did not move into the same house, but they got together.

Now, I am trying to show you that there is only one program that God has on this earth and that is the program of saving people. There is no reason on earth why Christian people cannot get together on a basis of understanding.

You Baptist preachers, you Methodist preachers, you Presbyterian preachers, you laymen, and the rest of you can go back to your home town if you want to and have a revival. There are enough good people in your town to have one. And you can have one without ever sacrificing a principle.

The average evangelist today understands the situation. Take Bob Jones University. Last year there were 102 different religious denominations represented there. We had no controversy. Our

Important Memo--

WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

Please report both new and old addresses directly to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, five weeks before the change is to take effect. Copies that we address to your old address will not be delivered by the Post Office unless you pay them extra postage. Avoid this unnecessary expense by notifying us five weeks in advance.

THE SWORD OF THE LORD
Subscription Dept.

214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Ill.

preacher's class had fifty-four denominations with more Baptists than anybody else. Why? Because you can't boss a Baptist! There is no excuse for a Baptist being bossed. He does not have to be. He has no connectional system.

Now a Methodist—if he doesn't do what you tell him, you can move him. A Presbyterian has a connectional system. He has to ask the presbytery or the synod and the local church together. But there is no excuse for a Baptist to sell out when they try to boss the Baptists.

Thank God for Honest Convictions!

When I was a boy, a Baptist was a man who believed certain things. The Methodists believed certain things. Presbyterians believed certain things. Now they judge you by what you support, not what you believe. "Does he support the program? If so, he is one of us." And those programs are usually made up by a group of men, many of whom are not spiritual men. You are judged by whether or not you support the program.

I am not trying to stir up any controversy. The purpose of this message is to be constructive. I have learned from experience that you just stand up and talk practical sense to people and they understand. You don't have to have trouble with people. Good men are reasonable men. If you have somebody in your church who isn't reasonable, he is crooked. If an old woman in your church isn't reasonable, something is wrong with her. Good men are reasonable men.

If a fellow is not reasonable, you had better watch him. There is something wrong with him. When we get a student in our school who is not reasonable, we know he is not right. Good men are reasonable.

Orthodox Christians Agree on the Great Fundamentals

Let's see what we can get together on. Here we are today—Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians. I want to show you how we are together individually, not organically. We are not going to get together organically. How are we together individually?

First, we believe in the same Bible. We start here. Whatever this Book says is so. We may not agree about what it says, but whatever it does say is so.

A fellow said what it says, but "Aren't you glad you lived in those old days when they had those religious debates?"

Well, I don't know whether I am or not. One thing about those old men—God bless their old sober sides—they did believe something! They had convictions. When they had those debates they would speak up like this: "Now, brethren, we agree that whatever this Book says is so. Whatever it says, we say it is so. Now, we don't agree about what it says. I say it says this, and he says it says that. But I'm going to show you that it says what I say it says, and that it doesn't say what he says it says." That is the way they used to debate. They do not debate that way any more. Modern controversy is not about what the Book says. Modern controversy is about whether the Book is so or not. That is the most dangerous, vicious attack in the world!

When I was a boy, everybody said that whatever it says is so. If it is in the Bible, it is so. They said, "But we don't agree about what it says." Now, we here do

agree about what it says on the essentials. Firstly, this is God's Book. What does this Bible say about Jesus Christ? He was born of a virgin. Every orthodox Christian believes that He is the virgin-born Son of God. Jesus was God manifest in the flesh. That is the fundamental truth of Christianity. The fundamental truth of Christianity is not the atonement. Don't get shocked. The blood that Christ shed on the cross would be of no value if Jesus had not been the Son of God. It took the Son of God's blood to wash away sin.

So the fundamental truth of Christianity is that Jesus Christ was God manifest in the flesh. Every orthodox Christian believes that every orthodox Baptist, every orthodox Methodist, every orthodox Presbyterian, every Pentecostal, Church of God—we are all together here. Jesus was the son of God!

What do you think about Jesus? I think He was the virgin-born Son of God. On the greatest fundamental truth of Christianity, all orthodox people agree.

What else? We believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross to save sinners. Every orthodox Christian believes that. We believe in the vicarious substitutional blood atonement. Now, we may not all state it that way.

A fellow said to me not long ago, "You know, I don't believe in substitution and vicarious theology."

I said, "You believe Christ died for sinners?"

"Yes."

"Died on the cross for sinners?"

"Yes."

"Well, you believe in the vicarious atonement. You just don't state it that way."

Now, we all believe that Jesus Christ died on Calvary to save sinners. He died for me. That is all the flowers of all the spring-times in one bouquet. He died for me. That is all the jewels of all the lands in one great diadem. He died for me. That is all the song birds of all the world breaking forth on one great spring morning. He died for me!

What do you tell a sinner? "Jesus died for you." What does a Baptist tell a sinner? "Jesus died for you." What does an orthodox Methodist tell a sinner? "Jesus died for you." What does the old Presbyterian brother say? "He died for us." What does the Pentecostal man say? "He died to save sinners." Now, we are together on the essential fundamentals as individuals.

What else do we believe? We believe Christ arose from the dead, died on the cross, was buried, the third day He rose again. Paul said that was the gospel he preached. We agree on that.

What else? We believe He went up to Heaven. He sits at the right hand of the Father. Where do you orthodox Methodists think Jesus is? "At the Father's right hand." Where do you Baptists think He is? "At the Father's right hand." You Presbyterians, the rest of you, where do you think Jesus is? "At the right hand of the Father."

What is He doing up there? "He is saying something to God for me." Don't you Baptists need somebody to say something to God for you? Don't you Methodists need somebody to say something good for you? We can't say much for ourselves, any of us, can we? Aren't you Presbyterians glad the Son intercedes for you? We evangelical Christian people are not so separated as we thought. Individually, we are not so divided.

Then we believe Jesus is coming again. I am a pre-millennialist. I believe He is coming before the millennium. Personally I don't understand the post-millennialists. I don't know what kind of a post he's propping on now. But I was preaching the gospel up and down this country for years before I knew anything about pre-millennialism. I had a singer in my meetings who talked about the Lord coming, and I thought he was nuts. When I saw this glorious truth of the imminent coming of Jesus, I learned more about the Bible in six weeks than I had ever learned all of my life up to that time.

But I believed in the blood. I be-

lieved there was a Heaven and a Hell, that sinners were going to Hell and saints were going to Heaven. I believed they had to repent or perish. And I got a lot of people saved before I ever knew anything about the Lord's coming.

I am a pre-millennialist. But you do not have to be a pre-millennialist to get to Heaven. You have to believe in Jesus to get to Heaven! You have to believe He died for you. You have to believe in His cleansing blood to get to Heaven.

I have a few pre-millennial friends who are extremists. I sometimes think if we pre-millennialists should be mistaken—which we are not—but if we should happen to be mistaken, I have a few pre-millennial brethren about whom I wonder if they want Jesus to come at all unless He comes before the millennium. They will not be vindicated. If I should happen to be mistaken and He does not come until after the millennium I still would like to have Him come back sometime. See? You know, it can be more of creed than of Christ. You can be more for pre-millennial doctrine than you can for His coming.

Here we are. We believe He is coming. What else do we believe? We believe that men are saved by grace through faith in the atoning blood of Jesus. We don't all say that though.

One time I was holding a revival meeting. A fellow came up to the front and a man said to him, "Say 'God be merciful to me a sinner.' Now, go on and say 'God be merciful to me a sinner.'"

The fellow said, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

A good old long-bearded technical theologian was standing there and said, "He shouldn't be told to pray to be saved. The Bible doesn't say that you are to pray to be saved." And he was right about it. You can't find in the Bible where God ever told a sinner to pray to be saved. I could not deny that the man was right.

I find where it says, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Rom. 10:13). I find there were people who did pray who were saved, but I cannot find where God ever commanded a fellow to pray to be saved.

So I said, "Well, brother, listen to me. Let's don't argue. If he says, 'God be merciful to me a sinner,' he believes in grace. He may not be stating it in technical, theological words, but a man who says, 'God save me,' means 'I can't save myself.' A man who says, 'God be merciful to me a sinner,' means, 'There is nothing I can do for myself.' He believes in grace. He just doesn't state it like we state it."

Salvation Should Come Ahead of Baptism

A lot of our trouble is because the words we use separate us and divide us and put us in trouble. Somebody says, "Well, that's all right, but what about baptism?"

Now, let me ask you Baptists something. You are a good Baptist. You believe a fellow ought to be saved before he is baptized, don't you? You are not a good Baptist if you don't believe that. A fellow has to be good enough to go to Heaven before you can get him in the water. If he isn't good enough for Heaven, he isn't good enough for the pool. But if you cannot get him in the pool, wouldn't you like to get him in Heaven anyway? I would rather see him go there dry cleaned than to miss it, wouldn't you?

I don't want to shock any of you Baptists, but I would just like to tell you something. I know some Presbyterians who you are not going to get in the water. They won't take it. It is not because they are stuck up. They just weren't taught that way. Dr. Scofield, editor of the Scofield Bible, was an immersionist. Dr. W. I. Carroll, who was his associate down in Texas, a Presbyterian, was one of the greatest men I ever knew. I had read the Scofield Bible and I knew that Dr. Scofield was an immersionist. He was a great man. So I said to Dr. Car-

(Continued on page 11)

WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

by Charles T. Lampman

Report on Revivals Held By Sword Staff of Evangelists

Evangelist G. Covell Keenum
The pastor of the Fundamental Baptist Church in Akron, Ohio, recently secured the services of Sword Staff Evangelist G. Covell Keenum and song leader Kenneth Wells for a revival. Rev. B. F. Cate, the pastor, writes that there were 58 conversions. Twenty-six have been baptized, with six more to follow. More than one hundred started tithing as a result of the meeting. Mr. Cate further adds: "I believe you and your staff are doing more to promote evangelism in America than any others."

Evangelist Dick Melton
Sword Staff Evangelist Dick Melton held a revival in the First Baptist Church, Milton, Florida, in March. May 10 the pastor, Rev. Joe M. Bamberg, wrote about the ministry of Brother Melton as follows:

"He is an able man with college and seminary training. His sermons are tightly constructed, his illustrations vivid and apropos. . . His ministry strengthens the church. He does not seek to raise up a personal following. He magnifies loyalty to the local congregation. The Lord is blessing his ministry. We baptized thirty-five out of a ten-day meeting. His program of evangelism includes work with children and young people. His youth conferences are excellent. He excels not only as a preacher but is a good promoter for his campaigns. For New Testament evangelism that makes an impact on modern thinking, I heartily recommend this able exponent."

Evangelist Joe B. Rice
Evangelist Joe B. Rice and song leader Warren Steward closed a good revival campaign in Danville, Illinois, on May 6. The pastor, Rev. Jack W. Bennett, reports nineteen additions to the church, thirty-one rededications, and many family altars started. Good crowds were in attendance. The pastor says: "I have never had a finer team with me in all my twelve years in the ministry."

Billy Graham—Shreveport
The Billy Graham revival in Shreveport April 8-29 had a total estimated attendance of 223,000. There were 5,446 registered decisions of converts, backsliders reclaimed, etc. These meetings were said to be the largest gatherings for any purpose in Shreveport's history, in Municipal Auditorium and State Fair Stadium. Dr. M. E. Dodds, Pastor Emeritus of First Baptist Church, was chairman. The campaign was sponsored by the Shreveport-Bossier City Ministerial Associations.

Evangelist Ed Nelson in Cheyenne, Oklahoma
There were sixty professions of faith, eleven baptisms, ten additions by letter and one by statement, fifty rededications, sixteen young people surrendered for life service, and many family altars established in a two and one-half week meeting led by Evangelist Ed Nelson of Fort Collins, Colorado, according to a report received from Rev. Ted Cox, pastor of First Baptist Church, Cheyenne, Oklahoma, where the meeting was held.

Evangelist Jim Mercer in Bloomington, Illinois; Toronto
In a one-week evangelistic effort, April 30-May 6, Evangelist Jim Mercer was greatly used in a meeting conducted in the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Bloomington, Illinois. Approximately 75 responded to the invitation for restoration or salvation. The church was greatly helped by the ministry of Mr. Mercer, and 20 additions were made to the church, according to the report of the pastor, Rev. H. I. Newell. From Bloomington, Illinois, the evangelist went to the Peoples Church in Toronto. Mr. Mercer

writes from there, "Souls are coming to Christ in every meeting. Saturday night was the greatest moving of the Holy Spirit I've ever seen in Canada."

July 1-22 Evangelist Jim Mercer is to be in a tent campaign in Vancouver, Washington, the campaign to be sponsored by fifty churches in a tent seating 2,500. Then some sixty churches will co-operate in a campaign in Salem, Oregon, where he will go August 15-September 3. Brother Mercer says: "Please pray for me and these meetings."

The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

a strong stand for the Bible and the old faith. Asbury Seminary openly takes a stand as an orthodox seminary, believing in the inspiration of the Bible, the blood atonement, the absolute necessity of the new birth, etc. We are grateful that many Methodist conferences receive ministers trained at Asbury Seminary and Asbury College, and we thank God for their stand. Some of these men we have met and love and honor. We recognize also that thousands of Methodist ministers still believe and preach the old-time gospel. Thank God for fellowship with them.

JOHN H. CARGILL, A SOUTHERN Baptist evangelistic singer, has some open dates for the summer and fall, and he can be reached at 614 Northwest Third Street, Bethany, Oklahoma. He and I worked together in a campaign at Stroud, Oklahoma, with great enjoyment. He is a good man. And we trust he will be kept busy.

A CONFERENCE ON PROPHECY and evangelism is scheduled for Chetek, Wisconsin, July 3-6. My good and noble friend, Dr. M. R. Siemens of Racine, Wisconsin, will be chairman of the conference and will speak daily, I think. Dr. M. R. DeHaan of Grand Rapids will be special prophetic speaker, and this editor is invited to speak on soul winning, prayer and revival. I understand that rates will be moderate, and I know the fellowship will be wonderful. I hope that all who can will plan to attend this conference over the fourth of July at Chetek. Write Dr. M. R. Siemens, 3525 Haven Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin, for full information.

PASTORS, WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE folders announcing the Sword Conference on Revival and Soul Winning nearest you this summer, and pass these folders out to interested Christians, announce them from the pulpit? You may have as many folders as you can use without waste. A separate folder is printed this year for each conference. Tell which conference you want to advertise. Remember the Sword Conference at Lake Louise, Toccoa, Georgia, will be July 9-15. The Sword conference at Latham Springs, Aquilla, Texas (north of Waco) at the Latham Springs Baptist Assembly Ground, will be August 5-10. The conference at Baptist State Assembly Ground, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, will be August 12-17. Any individual who wants full information on rates, etc., be sure to write for a folder, and any one who will give out the folders in your church or Sunday School class, or missionary society, write for what you will carefully use of the folders advertising the conference your people would most likely attend. Send orders to Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.

MORE AND MORE I AM CONVINCED that God has been in these conferences on revival and soul winning sponsored by The Sword of the Lord for the last several years. Nearly everywhere I go I find some preacher whose ministry has been transformed at one of these great conferences. I hope readers

of THE SWORD OF THE LORD will see that their pastor has a chance to attend one of these conferences where there is real Bible teaching on soul winning, on the power of the Holy Spirit, on the requirements of revival, and how to use the Word of God in soul winning. Besides, there is real fellowship with Christians of many states, there is the inspiration of great preaching and singing. There are prayer times when people get things settled with God. Why not have a Christian vacation this year at a Sword conference on Revival and Soul Winning? Rates are moderate. The spiritual blessings are tremendous. Write for full information about the conference you wish to attend.

LETTERS KEEP COMING FROM MISSIONARIES in far-off continents who have been blessed by the editor's radio messages on radio HCJB, Quito, Ecuador, South America. I have four such broadcasts each week which may be heard by short wave nearly anywhere in the world, I think. These broadcasts are 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Tuesday, Central Standard Time, and 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Thursday, Central Standard Time.

"LETTER MONTH" CLOSES JUNE 27. I am being tremendously blessed in heart to have the kindly letters coming from thousands of readers of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I need that comfort, that encouragement, and so do the other workers at the Sword of the Lord office. I beg you get your letter in the mail to us. But make occasion to save money and get things you ought to have anyhow while we have special prices on several of the books, and while we give special premium with orders from \$1 to \$4.99, and orders of \$5 and above. And don't forget to ask for the pamphlet, *Bloody Hands and How to Cleanse Them*.

LATER NOTE: MONDAY THERE WERE 31 professions of faith in the Moncton, N. B. Revival! Tuesday there were 17, nearly all adults. Praise God for blessings!

This Book FREE

With cash retail orders of \$5 or more during Letter Month



The story of Billy Graham evangelistic campaigns including six of his sermons. Introduction by Charles E. Fuller, Harold J. Ockenga, C. Wade Freeman.

Contents:

Tasting Revival—in Los Angeles
Continuing Revival—in Boston
Preparing for Revival
Singing During the Revival
Harvesting at the Revival
Preaching During the Revival
Includes also six sermons by Billy Graham as follows:
We Need Revival
The Home God Honors
How to be Filled with the Spirit
Prepare to Meet Thy God
The Resurrection of Jesus Christ
Judgment

Eight pages of pictures, 140 pages, bound in striking yellow cloth. Jacket pictures Billy Graham. This is first edition of this book. Heart-warming, stirring, helpful. This book may be purchased at the regular retail price of \$2. However, we will send a copy absolutely free with each retail cash order of \$5 or more during Letter Month. Ask for book, *Revival in Our Time*.

Your cash order may include any books we sell or subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Order from Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.

Cooperating for Soul Winning

(Continued from page 10)

roll, "Dr. Carroll, Dr. Scofield was an immersionist."

He said, "You know, I never understood that in Scofield. That was the only thing I ever found in him that I didn't understand. It looks like he would have had more sense than that." I never had such a shock in my life. He said, "I don't see how Scofield could have been an immersionist."

But one of the sweetest Christians I ever knew was W. I. Carroll. He was just brought up from babyhood to believe in sprinkling and couldn't see baptism by immersion. If he had thought the Lord wanted him to go under, he would have been willing to get out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean and dive to the bottom. He just didn't see it. A great many people have not been taught like some of us have been taught. They just weren't raised like that. The best thing you can do for those fellows to bring them around to see your way is just be sweet. See? Go ahead and live it. Live your testimony. Be sweet about it.

I know these folks. I have associated with them. Let's get them into Heaven. You don't think baptism saves you. We agree on that. We are together on that. Get them that far. Let's see how far we can go together. How far can we go together before we buck, before we divide, before we separate, before we argue? Don't go to arguing until you get where the road parts. As long as you are going together, don't argue. When the road parts, then talk it over. You say, "This is the way to the pool." He says, "This is the way to the fountain." You say, "This is the right road." He says, "This is the right road." He parts with you there and says, "We'll meet you around yonder and get on the road again!"

Listen, I want to let you Baptists in on a little secret. That is the best way to handle them. That is the easiest, nicest, sweetest way to handle them. That is the most winning way to handle them. Whenever you go to arguing with a fellow against what he has been taught through the years and you get into debate with him about it, he builds up a resistance against your arguments.

Getting People Saved Is Better Than Arguing Eternal Security

A fellow said to me one time, "You know, I wouldn't have that brother preach in my pulpit."

I said, "What do you mean?"

"Well," he said, "he doesn't believe in the security of the believer. He believes that a fellow will lose it after he gets it."

I said, "What do you think about it?"

He said, "I know he won't."

"Well," I said, "listen. You get me that fellow; help somebody get him, then fool him. He thinks he can lose it. You just fool him and show him that he can't. You have got to get it before you can lose it! You have got to get it to keep it! Let's get it. Let's don't argue about that until he gets there. Let's help him get it. What's the use to debate something he doesn't have anyhow? A fellow can't lose it, if he hasn't even got it. Tell him he can't lose it if he has never had it to lose."

Just get them together. Quit all this bickering. Brethren, we don't have enough in our crowd to fuss too much. We don't have enough in the gang to be spitting at each other. I would rather have a born-again Methodist or Presbyterian or Baptist who is mistaken in his head about something, who didn't quite understand some things, isn't as smart as I am, doesn't just know what I know, but he has it six inches below the collar bone, right down here on the left side and that's the only place to get it, just in there where there is a little pumping going on. Let's help them get it. Let's don't go to fussing until we have to fuss. Wait until fussing day comes and then let's fight it out. We can stay sweet if we are all together.

Christians Who Are Humble and Sincere Can Get Along Together
Somebody said, "I believe in

election and all that kind of business."

You do? Some don't, but you do. All right. We can get together on that. You will admit that if a fellow wants to be saved he can, won't you? Everybody believes that. Anybody who wants to be saved can be saved! Well, what is the use of putting a question mark in the fellow's mind about whether God wants to save him or not? You should say, "If you want to be saved, skip all that other stuff." Any foreordination, predestination, limited atonement man can get together on this one point with any man who believes Jesus died for everybody: a fellow who wants it can have it.

We are just fussing, talking wise about something we don't know anything about, strutting our stuff! Most of us are a little dumb about some things. Some of the most ignorant people I have ever known in my life—ignorant, I don't mean illiterate—were teaching in a university. You know there is a difference between illiteracy and ignorance. An illiterate person is a person who cannot tell you what he knows. An ignorant person is a fellow who does not know anything to tell you.

I have known women who have lived in mountain cabins who could scarcely read, who were not as ignorant about spiritual matters as some college professors I know about. We tell our students to do this: "Borrow brains. You can't borrow character, but borrow brains and borrow at the right source." If I wanted to go possum hunting, I wouldn't go up to New York and walk down Broadway, see a fellow who had never been out of the city who says "opossum" and ask him how to catch possums! A man who says "opossum" doesn't know anything about possum hunting!

I would go out in the woods and find a fellow with a cur dog, and who says "possum." I am the founder of the fastest growing Christian school in the history of this nation. I don't know much. I borrowed all the brains to run it. But I know this evangelistic business and I want to tell you something. Every Christian under this tabernacle today can go home and cooperate with any honest effort to win souls to Jesus Christ and not compromise your convictions!

If a fellow says a little something that you do not quite understand, or do not quite agree with, wait until he gets through, and pick him up again. I have said a thousand times if a hound dog came to my town barking for Jesus, I wouldn't ask him what theological seminary he had gone to. I wouldn't sit back and criticize his bark. If he is barking for Jesus, he is my dog. A man who is out for souls is my man. Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost. And I would have a fellow blunder at this business than not to do it at all.

A fellow one time had a revival. They gathered around the front up there. Somebody said, "You know, I don't like the way you do this."

He said, "How do you do it?"

He said, "I don't do it at all."

"Well," he said, "I certainly like my way better than your way!"

Personally I don't like to roll in the sawdust. I like a quiet, dignified after service. But if a fellow, rolling around in the sawdust, swallows a gospel capsule and gets saved, hallelujah! And the dignified Presbyterian who sits there quiet and refined and cultured, if you have to shoot him a hypodermic of the gospel, shoot it to him! Let's get the gospel out.

You know the Devil has got us all fussing in this country about how to take the medicine. And we have fussed so much about how to take it that we just don't take it. Let's quit fussing about how people take it; let's get them to take it. Go along. You won't have any trouble. We are not divided.

For fifty-two years now I have been in this business. I have made all the mistakes. I am still making them. But if I had to die today

(Continued on page 12)

Cooperating for Soul Winning

(Continued from page 11)

I could stretch my hand across my breast and tell God with my dying breath one thing: All these fifty-two years, as far as I know, I have never compromised. I have done wrong privately, blundered and stumbled. But when I got into the role of a preacher, I have never compromised. After fifty-two years I can know of a certainty that we Christian people can get along if we agree on the essential fundamentals and disagree about what we don't agree about, and we can unite to win people to Jesus Christ. We can get together on that, and that is the only way we can get together. That is God's big business.

You preachers can go back to your town, and if there is some other preacher in that town who loves the Lord, you can say, "Let's have a revival. Let's get together. We don't agree about some things, but we have sinners in this town who need Jesus. So let's get them saved." You laymen can go back and get them together. You can have a revival in your community. Now is the time. We are headed probably for World War III. You had better have the revival quick. The Lord may be coming soon. Work while it is day, for night cometh when no man can work.

Closing Prayer

Blessed Jesus, this hasn't been much of a sermon. We knew it was just a little wandering, rambling talk; but we wanted to do a job here today. We are brothers and sisters in Christ. We are Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians. Here we all are, sitting around here together. We love Jesus. Some of us may not understand as well as somebody else. So it is in homes. Some children are brighter than others. Some of them are little fellows who try to do what Daddy says to do but sometimes make a mistake. But the baby loves his daddy and his mother. We make mistakes, but we love You, Jesus. We believe if You came here today and told many of these Christians what to do and they clearly understood You, we believe they would try to do it. Maybe they have already tried and maybe they have misunderstood the orders. Maybe they have been deafened by this sound driven in their ears when they were children so they cannot hear very well. May our hearts be one in Christ.

We are members of Christ's body. We are organically separated. We worship in our own churches at home and these different churches are no doubt emphasizing, if they are orthodox, certain things that maybe somebody else has neglected. Help us to love each other. The great ecclesiastical machinery in this country is growing less spiritual. We have built great churches, great organizations, great machines, and we have great apostasy. We are helpless in this day. We have no help outside of God's help. Come down upon us.

We thank Thee for Dr. Rice. We thank You for his uncompromising message, his convictions in this country. We thank You he does not compromise. We thank Thee that all the Christians, when he gets up to preach as he did last night about prayer, know that it wasn't a Baptist sermon. That was a Christian sermon. A Presbyterian was in on that. The Methodists got in on that. Nazarenes got in on that. Christian and Missionary Alliance got in on that. That message shouldn't be limited nor restricted. It belongs to all of God's people. The gospel of God's saving grace belongs to Thy people everywhere. Help us to preach it. Help us to know we can preach it gentlemanly and kindly, in a Christian way, and always state our own positions and not have a fuss in the community when we preach.

Help us to be faithful. Bless Dr. Rice. Bless THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Multiply the subscriptions. Help the people to take this paper, read it, circulate it by the thousands and thousands and thousands that in this time of such apostasy and darkness, the message of THE

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SWORD OF THE LORD may go out.

Bless this book ministry. We thank Thee for the ministry to which Thou hast called Dr. Rice—not only to the evangelistic ministry, but to the book ministry, to the tract ministry. Thank You for his work in Japan and the wonderful story that has come back from that man over there. Thank You, Lord, that you have called some of these people to a different sort of work. You called me to found a school and still be an evangelist. And you called Bill Rice and Jon Pirtle to go out in their fields, and these other men here and these singers. It is so wonderful You ever asked us to do anything for You. We feel so honored that you would ask us. You have done so much for us. It is mighty nice You let us do a little something for You, so little. We can't do much, but we sure would if we could because You have done so much for us. You are a wonderful Saviour. You came down and died for us poor lost sinners even when we were sinners. Oh, You're wonderful! And we love You.

Help us to dedicate our lives to You daily. We are so glad we love God's people. When we hear Dr. Rice, we never stop to think whether he is a Baptist, or not. But we say, "He sure is giving us what we need." And we hear somebody else like Jack Shuler and we say, "There he is"—we never stop to think about his denomination. It sounds like the same gospel that our mother taught us in the country.

These other saints of God around the world are not going to get together on everything. They weren't raised the same way. They don't have exactly the same slant and the same training. They are never going to agree about absolutely everything. But Lord, we agree about one thing: You sure have a wonderful Son. He died for lost sinners, shed His blood on Calvary's cross, rose from the dead. And He said, "Come unto me all the ends of the earth and be ye saved." We came in that great world-wide call and He said, "Him that cometh... I will in no wise cast out." He did not cast us out. He took us in. We are in still. By the grace of God we are going to stay in, until He takes us up into His town up in the sky. We want to get up close to Him up there. We would like to see Him. He is wonderful! Help us to exalt Jesus.

Oh, in this day when He is being shoved around, help us to exalt Him. Help us to know there is no hope except in Him. Bless all the services that follow. Keep us true till He comes and we hope it is soon. We pray in His name. Amen.

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